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**Review and implementation of the Concluding Document
of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly**

**United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament
and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean****Report of the Secretary-General***Summary*

The role of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean has undergone substantial modification since its creation in 1987. The Centre has evolved from serving as a facilitator for the implementation of regional initiatives to being a service provider for States in the region, due in part to the increased variety and quantity of requests from States in the region for assistance in the implementation of measures for peace, disarmament and development, as well as to the intensified integration of the Centre's assistance efforts into those of the United Nations country team in Peru and the goals of the Millennium Declaration.

The activities of the Centre during the reporting period focused on weapons destruction and stockpile management; training courses for the law enforcement community, members of Parliament and their advisers and representatives of non-governmental organizations; guidance on reporting in connection with weapons-related instruments; and development of methodologies for future confidence-building measures between States.

The activities of the Centre were developed with the aim of identifying regional security needs; exploring new areas of cooperation in the region by synergizing the Centre's work with subregional, regional, international and non-governmental organizations; and addressing the growing link between peace and disarmament issues and human and sustainable development.

* A/60/150.



The evolved role played by the Centre, in terms of offering practical support to States and elaborating novel strategic cooperation initiatives, coupled with an improvement of the Centre's organizational structure and human resources capacity, has enabled it to further strengthen its role as a viable regional actor assisting States to implement peace, disarmament and development initiatives in the region.

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I. Introduction

1. In its resolution 59/99 of 3 December 2004, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to provide the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean with all necessary support, within existing resources, so that it might carry out its programme of activities in accordance with its mandate and to report to the Assembly at its sixtieth session on the implementation of the resolution.

2. The present report is submitted pursuant to that request and covers the Centre's activities from July 2004 to June 2005. A financial statement on the status of the Trust Fund for the Centre for 2004 is contained in annex I. An outline of some planned activities of the Centre for which funding is being sought is provided in annex II.

II. Functioning and mandate

3. The United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, located in Lima, was established in 1987, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 41/60 J of 3 December 1986. The Centre functions under the auspices of the Department for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat and is mandated to provide, upon request, substantive support for the initiatives and other activities of the Member States of the region for the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament and for the promotion of economic and social development.

III. Activities

4. The Centre has undergone a marked evolution since its creation in 1986, which is evident when contrasting the Centre's initial role as primarily a disarmament information centre in its early years with its subsequent and current role as a catalyst, platform and service provider for States in the region.

5. The current roles undertaken by the Centre address the increasing requests of States for assistance and aim at integrating the Centre's assistance efforts into those of the United Nations country team in Peru, such as the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, and the goals of the Millennium Declaration. In addition to assuming the role as a regional focal point for the United Nations Coordinating Action on Small Arms (CASA) mechanism, the Centre has experienced exponential growth in requests for disarmament- and development-related assistance, as well as an increase in the coordination, cooperation and integration of its assistance with those of regional and subregional organizations and with those of governmental and non-governmental partners.

6. A new phenomenon has been developing lately owing to a growing link between peace and disarmament issues and human and sustainable development. In this connection, the Centre is now more actively engaged in the planning and implementation of disarmament- and development-related assistance in the region, in tandem with the work of other United Nations agencies, development assistance donors and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

7. During the period under review, the Centre carried out the activities described below.

A. Promoting subregional and regional security

8. The promotion of subregional and regional security primarily entails paying increased attention to defining, better understanding and supporting projects that affect the security and lives of people on a daily basis. Requests for assistance by States in the region during the period under review have pertained to activities related to promoting disarmament and development initiatives, stimulating issues involving conventional weapons, supporting the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, as well as other related activities.

1. Enhancing development through disarmament

9. The Centre assisted Governments, international organizations and civil society in their quest for peace and human development through disarmament efforts by focusing on peacebuilding, post-conflict and reintegration measures. The Centre also played an important role of facilitating coordination among these different entities and of carrying out capacity-building initiatives on the link between security and sustainable development.

10. Two separate capacity-building projects have been developed by the Centre to enhance the capacity of the United Nations to properly provide assistance to States upon request. The first project has the dual goal of training United Nations staff members on the link between disarmament and development so that they may have the appropriate tool to effectively promote social and economic development, notably an increased ability to design, plan and carry out disarmament and development activities. The second project aims at training United Nations officials to better understand the role of the organization in post-conflict reintegration processes.

11. The short-term goal of this training is to better equip the Centre and other agencies to plan and adopt standards for carrying out disarmament and development activities in the field. The long-term goal is to create a context for improved cooperation and dialogue among United Nations agencies for the final implementation of this assistance.

12. The first training course in this series took place during 2004 for staff members of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Centre and the Department for Disarmament Affairs, exclusively. Future disarmament and development courses will be available to all members of the CASA mechanism, and subsequently to NGO representatives working in that field. It is then expected that major players will be able to better coordinate disarmament and development assistance. The first capacity-building project evaluation will be conducted before the end of 2005 in order to gain lessons learned as well as basic information on current and planned assistance initiatives related to the Millennium Development Goals in the region and to assess the potential impact of the project.

2. Good governance and security sector reform

13. The Centre's assistance in the areas of good governance and security sector reform addresses such issues as public security, synergies between security and social policies, institutional problems related to the availability of resources or the lack thereof, the relationship between governmental entities, international organizations and civil society and other areas in which the Centre and its partners can play a meaningful role to improve security and enhance development opportunities.

14. For example, the Centre currently supports two projects in Costa Rica and Guatemala as part of a larger Central American firearms project, which count on the active involvement of national Governments, firearms commissions and local UNDP offices. Specifically, the Centre is providing support to phase II of a Costa Rican project entitled "Programme for a comprehensive approach to violence with firearms as a public health problem". The project has four main objectives. The first is to carry out research aimed at reducing the impact of firearms-related violence on human development. The second is to improve firearms legislation and conduct capacity-building activities. The third aims at decentralizing firearms-related policy implementation by developing measures at the municipal level. The fourth is to develop an awareness-building campaign on firearms control.

15. In a similar vein, the activities taking place in Guatemala entail a preliminary series of studies on firearms proliferation and their impact on development, including the mapping of firearms demand and supply. These initial actions lend fundamental support to the preparatory assistance being granted by UNDP-Guatemala to the Guatemalan Disarmament Commission in the development of a national firearms control policy. Similar assistance related to good governance is being planned with the support of local UNDP offices in Argentina, the Bahamas, Jamaica, Paraguay and Uruguay.

3. Addressing the firearms problem

16. The Centre organized several activities to assist States in the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects. An ever-increasing number of activities were directed at fostering more partnerships among national, subregional and regional entities, as well as to facilitate the development by States of control legislation and procedures and the implementation of programmes described below.

Fostering the development and implementation of firearms-related instruments

17. The Centre has assisted States in maintaining continued dialogue on ways and means of implementing firearms-related instruments such as the Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials, the Organization of American States (OAS), Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) model regulations, the Programme of Action, the United Nations Firearms Protocol, Andean Community decision 552 on the Andean Plan to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, several firearms resolutions of the Common Market of the South (MERCOSUR), the Central American Integration System firearms project and Caribbean Community

(CARICOM) and associated States firearms-related resolutions. Various conferences, workshops and other events were also organized during the period under review with the aim of assisting States to implement their obligations, such as the design of firearms legislation, the development of capacity-building courses and reporting procedures. Those activities included three transfer control initiatives workshops, held in the Bahamas (12 May 2005), Peru (19 and 20 May 2005) and Brazil (2 and 3 June 2005), and two meetings on assessing preparations for the 2005 biennial meeting of States on small arms and light weapons, held in Peru (9 and 10 September 2004) and the Bahamas (13 May 2005).

18. A clear example of these activities was the assistance provided by the Centre to States in the region to discuss the need for the development of common criteria in firearms imports and exports and firearms in transit. This series of events generated various new requests for assistance ranging from the continuation of a forum for such discussion to technical assistance on the development of firearms legislation and capacity-building for the law enforcement and customs community. The Centre is currently undertaking a review of these requests to prepare a response, in coordination with its partners and donors, to States in the region.

19. Another example is the assistance provided by the Centre to States in reporting on the Programme of Action. The Centre, in cooperation with UNDP and several other partners, provided assistance to States in the region to assess the status of implementation of the Programme of Action, to discuss reporting methodologies, to identify new coordination and cooperation opportunities and to assess means and procedures of exploring the Centre's Small Arms and Light Weapons Administration System in reporting on activities related to the Programme of Action in the region. In addition to organizing two workshops on reporting on the implementation of the Programme of Action, the Centre assisted Peru to prepare its report for the 2005 biennial meeting of States and has initiated discussions with the Bahamas, Paraguay and Uruguay to assist them in preparing reports for the 2006 United Nations conference to review progress made in the implementation of the Programme of Action.

Strengthening of firearms legislation

20. The Centre has provided, in cooperation with CICAD, technical assistance to members of parliament for the analysis of the status and drafting of national firearms legislation and related international instruments. This assistance involved the use of a reference guide on norms and legal instruments on firearms, ammunition and explosives to provide information for the improvement of firearms legislation and to harmonize and/or standardize firearms legislation in the region. Continued technical assistance is planned through the comparison of Latin American and Caribbean firearms legislation with that of States of the European Union, as well as through the identification of lessons learned and cooperation opportunities for 2005/06.

Developing training courses

21. The Centre has developed and organized, in cooperation with several partners, various training courses for law enforcement officials, members of parliament and their advisers, as well as NGO representatives in the region. Courses have included both theoretical and practical sessions with simulation exercises, notably on the

control of the legal firearms trade and the illicit trafficking in firearms, ammunition and explosives.

22. Three sets of courses were organized to train 329 individuals in the region during the period under review. A total of 209 law enforcement officials were trained in basic firearms investigative techniques. Work on the improvement of two training facilities was initiated at police academies in Costa Rica and Uruguay to facilitate future subregional courses. It is expected that approximately 3,000 officials will be trained in 2005/06 during the next round of courses aimed at developing national ownership of the training courses. Other training courses on intelligence and international cooperation are currently under development in coordination with the recently created Regional Public Security Training Centre in Brazil. A web of five combined command posts at training facilities are being created in Brazil, Costa Rica, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago and Uruguay to facilitate coordination on firearms-related courses among 33 countries in the region.

23. The Centre and its partners trained a total of 50 members of various parliaments and their advisers on firearms legislation for MERCOSUR and the members of associated States and the Andean Community. The courses focused on, inter alia, how to draft firearms legislation, an assessment of the main actors involved in firearms control and the importance of incorporating the issues of gender, children and adolescents in the formulation of such legislation. Two other courses are being prepared for Mexico and the Caribbean region. It is expected that members of parliament and their advisers will continue this initial contact, forming a growing network established through the creation of the Centre's Parliamentary Exchange Initiative Project Database and the Permanent Parliamentary Forum.

24. The Centre and its partners also trained 42 members of different NGOs in the Andean Community and MERCOSUR and associated States, bringing the number of NGO representatives trained by the Centre so far to 70. Those representatives are now expected to assist the Centre in the training of more NGO staff at the national level, thus enhancing Programme of Action-related research and advocacy in the region.

25. A total of 92 parliamentarians, their advisers and NGO representatives in the region were trained on the impact firearms-related violence has on women, adolescents and children, pursuant to Security Council resolution 1325 (2000). As part of the gender mainstreaming action plan of the Department for Disarmament Affairs, the Centre also fostered the participation of women in all law enforcement training courses as a means of improving gender balance in that field. The experience gained from those efforts will serve in developing a longer-term package to assist States in implementing resolution 1325 (2000).

2006 Lima challenge on weapons destruction and stockpile management

26. Assistance provided by the Centre to States in the destruction of small arms and light weapons during the period under review included the destruction or removal of 52,000 firearms in Brazil, Costa Rica and Paraguay, as well as the destruction of over 96 tons of ammunition and explosives in Paraguay. The assistance also contained a capacity-building component to aid Government representatives in the further destruction of weapons, which resulted in the first such activity undertaken by Paraguayan army officers in early June 2005. Work is currently under way for two other weapons destruction events in Peru and Uruguay.

for the second half 2005. Other destruction assistance initiatives are currently being planned as part of a new project being developed with UNDP-Brazil.

27. Assistance in improving the security of weapons facilities was also among the activities developed during the period under review. Some of the assistance provided to Brazil, Costa Rica, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay entailed the development of firearms registration, including licensing, and storage management systems. In this connection, the Centre is also currently developing an integrated weapons management system database for the improvement of weapons stockpile facilities in Costa Rica, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay. A slightly varied version of the database will also be available for weapons management and disarmament activities in peacekeeping operations.

Increasing database tools to enhance coordination and the exchange of information

28. The Centre's Small Arms and Light Weapons Administration System database was launched and currently operates as a centre for information exchange and assistance for the collection of information related to several firearms instruments. Field-testing of the joint CICAD/United Nations Regional Centre Model Regulations Database provided sufficient information and lessons learned for a new database development phase, which will include the participation of several countries in the region as part of a growing request for assistance aimed at improving firearms and ammunition imports, exports and in-transit controls.

Enhancing participation of the firearms, ammunition and explosives industry

29. The Centre and CICAD/OAS have also promoted dialogue with the firearms industry and the commercial sector to assess potential contributions that the private sector can make to prevent firearms trafficking and to address requests made by States of the region in the area of public security. Joint work includes the development of a regional forensics network to assist States in the exchange of information and in the development of capacity on firearms and ammunition information, which could enhance their capacity to trace firearms and detect the movement of weapons within and across borders. CICAD/OAS and the Centre's FinDATA database will be used as the main information hub for this assistance, which will be launched at a regional workshop to be held in September 2005 in Brazil.

Fostering United Nations coordination

30. As the regional focal point of the Department for Disarmament Affairs for the United Nations CASA mechanism, the Centre is responsible for the organization of consultation meetings for coordination in the field. In this regard, the Centre organized the first CASA consultation meeting in the field on 31 May 2005 in Brasilia, which led to increased coordination among United Nations agencies and a pledge for more coordination between the United Nations and the host country. Follow-up consultation meetings are now planned for 2005 in Argentina, Costa Rica, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

31. During the reporting period, the Centre also designed and developed a database prototype for gathering information on CASA members covering their small arms and light weapons-related activities. The CASA database, which includes

a feature on country profiles, is scheduled to be launched during the 2005 biennial meeting of States on small arms and light weapons.

4. Increasing security through confidence-building measures

32. At the request of States for assistance in enhancing confidence- and security-building measures in the region, the Centre has developed and engaged in a wide variety of initiatives. They include increasing the participation of civil society in disarmament and security matters, as well as providing an environment conducive to dialogue, information exchange and awareness-building in the field of conventional arms.

Developing a methodology for the comparison of military expenditures

33. The Centre and its partners recently completed the development of a standardized methodology on the comparison of military expenditures. This methodological tool highlights the importance of confidence- and security-building measures and provides fertile soil for discussion of the missions, objectives and policies of national defence. It forms part of a broader security-sector reform programme coordinated by the Department of Political Affairs and was carried out jointly by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the Department for Disarmament Affairs and the Centre.

34. In addition, at the request of the Governments of Chile and Peru for assistance to undertake a study on the comparison of the military expenditures between the two countries, ECLAC and the Department, through the Centre, presented a project proposal that has been officially accepted. Work is expected to start once an advisory committee in both Chile and Peru has been officially created.

Defence White Books

35. Assistance in the development of Defence White Books represents another measure undertaken by the Centre to address issues related to the strengthening of democratic values, practices and human security in the region. The role of the Centre and its partners is to provide all concerned sectors of Government, parliaments and civil society with information on how to structure defence views, aims and policies, as well as the modus operandi for work on security-sector reform issues.

36. A two-year project to assist in the design of basic guidelines for the development of Defence White Books in the region was officially concluded during the period under review. The project forms part of a broader security-sector reform programme coordinated by the Department of Political Affairs. A request for support in the creation of a Defence White Book has already been received from the Government of Uruguay. This will consist of assistance in the application of the basic guidelines, as well as the granting of access to a Defence White Book database developed by the Centre.

5. Regional security: cooperating for a safer region

37. The Centre plays an active role in enhancing cooperation for a safer region by responding to requests by States for the creation of an environment conducive to dialogue and information exchange and for support for efforts in the field of

regional security. In this connection, the Centre serves as a catalyst between States and national, subregional, regional and/or global organizations to develop policies aimed at assisting key strategic decision-making initiatives, as well as maximizing human, material and financial resources and avoiding duplication.

United Nations role in regional security

38. The Centre collects and inputs, on a yearly basis, information in a database regarding peace, disarmament and development-related events in the region. Information on the status of treaty memberships and implementation, early warning and conflict resolution initiatives and the interrelationship between security and development constitutes a wealth of data for the assessment of trends, policies and the status of intra- and inter-country security. Work has been initiated during the period under review to develop a prototype software for proof of concept that will allow for an assessment of this project and a final decision on full development before the end of 2005. This information material, to be available online, is expected to assist interested actors in the decision-making process at the political, military, diplomatic and civil community levels and serve as a reference tool on security- and development-related issues.

Fostering Latin America and Caribbean partnership with the European Union

39. The Centre also assisted States by providing a platform for debates on the monitoring of follow-up to recommendations made by Heads of State and Government of Latin America and the Caribbean and Europe at their summits and prepared policy-oriented briefings addressing issues of interest for such summits. Informal consultation meetings were undertaken with the European Parliament in Brussels and Strasbourg during 2005 to begin the development of this project. Other consultations are expected to continue during the second half of 2005, culminating with the creation of an expert group that will coordinate the work to be undertaken by different international and non-governmental institutions from both regions. The results of such cooperation are expected to be useful for consideration by individual Governments in preparing for the next summit meeting between the two regions, to take place in Europe in 2006.

Forging an ever-greater partnership between the United Nations and the Organization of American States

40. CICAD and the United Nations have been engaged in cooperation on a regular basis and have continued to explore opportunities to assist States in the region in the implementation of international and regional firearms instruments. It is deemed appropriate for the United Nations to expand this relationship with OAS to other areas beyond firearms, particularly after member States of OAS have redefined their concept and methodological strategy for addressing hemispheric security. The Centre and OAS are therefore seeking to identify other areas of cooperation, such as drugs, terrorism and other common interests. Initial contacts have taken place during the reporting period and a regional conference is planned to be organized at which member States of both organizations will have an opportunity to indicate their priority areas for cooperation.

B. Striving for global security

41. During the period under review, the Centre also assisted States in the region to develop activities in the area of weapons of mass destruction and their delivery vehicles. Such assistance was aimed at fostering universality and highlighting social and economic development aspects of the relevant multilateral agreements. It also addressed the issues of signature, ratification and implementation of those agreements. Such activities covered four specific areas, as outlined below.

Supporting accession

42. During the reporting period, the Centre organized several consultation missions in cooperation with the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and the Provisional Technical Secretariat of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization to provide States in the Caribbean (e.g., Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas and Dominica) with adequate information on the benefits and obligations related to accessions to the relevant multilateral agreements. Presentations were made by the respective treaty organizations and the Centre on the development-related issues involved in accession to these disarmament instruments. Concrete results from those consultations have been achieved, as evidenced by progress in accession to the Chemical Weapons Convention, as in the case of the Bahamas, and the establishment of national disarmament commissions to address weapons-related issues in countries in the region. A series of similar consultation missions are now planned for Barbados, Jamaica, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Trinidad and Tobago.

Assessing national legislation

43. The Centre also initiated work aimed at assisting States in the region to assess the status of their national legislation on weapons of mass destruction and their delivery vehicles, identify new coordination and cooperation opportunities and propose solutions to problems that might hamper their work undertaken either individually or jointly. The results of this assessment will be available in a database to facilitate cross-references and track any legislative changes in the future. This assistance includes the organization of three subregional workshops to address how States can best improve their national legislation to comply with related international disarmament instruments. Workshops are expected to be organized as of late 2005 and concluded by mid-2006.

Developing regional networks

44. The Centre has developed a prototype chemical weapons regional assistance and protection network database, further to a request made by Latin American and Caribbean countries in November 2004. The network was developed in cooperation with the Peruvian chemical weapons commission and will function under the direction of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons. It is designed to serve as an Internet platform featuring information and data to facilitate coordination on and delivery of protection measures against chemical weapons to states Parties in the region, as specified in article X of the Chemical Weapons Convention. It includes information on, inter alia, detection equipment and alarm systems, protection and decontamination equipment, advice and lessons learned, as

well as other related protective measures. The network is expected to be launched by the end of June 2005.

Addressing counter-terrorism

45. During the reporting period, the Centre explored the best ways and means of contributing to efforts already undertaken by States in the region in combating terrorism. It was concluded that the Centre should link counter-terrorism initiatives undertaken by States to existing activities organized by the Centre in related areas, notably by enhancing coordination, cooperation and integration between law enforcement agencies, international organizations and other concerned entities. A project currently under development will provide a forum for discussion on the concept of terrorism and policies in the region designed to counter terrorist activities. The project also includes a training course entitled "combined counter-terrorism training" for law enforcement officials and other concerned entities responsible for combating terrorism.

46. The assistance provided by the Centre in addressing counter-terrorism will also include supporting joint training and research and development with respect to procedures and equipment (involving, e.g., trafficking of drugs and firearms, money-laundering, organized and semi-organized crime, etc.). The first activity in this project is expected to be carried out during the second half of 2005.

C. Fostering peace and disarmament education

47. During the reporting period, the Centre provided assistance to Peruvian NGOs in the development of visual and printed material on peace and disarmament. It also assisted Save the Children-Sweden in a project aimed at gradually widening the values of peace and disarmament around the celebration of the Peruvian national day (28 July). This included the development of a poster for a national media contest on articles proposing new concepts for celebrating the national day. It also included the preparation of a folder with images of folkloric dancers and other artistic activities during the celebrations of 28 July 2005 in Lima, as well as the preparation of a video and photos to promote a new way of celebrating the national day in 2006. It is expected that those activities will help increase the cultural aspects of the celebrations and reduce the focus on the military-style parade during the events.

IV. Staffing, financing and administration

48. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 41/60 J, the Centre was established on the basis of existing resources and voluntary contributions made by Member States and interested organizations for its core and programme functions. During the reporting period, voluntary contributions in the amount of \$196,837 were received. The Secretary-General wishes to express his gratitude to the Governments of Colombia, Guyana, Mexico, Panama and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland for their financial contributions to and support for the activities of the Centre and to the Government of Peru, the host country, for its overall support of the Centre. Information on the status of the Trust Fund for the Centre for 2004 is contained in annex I to the present report.

49. Parallel funding in the amount of \$218,200 was also made available for the Centre's activities from the voluntary Trust Fund for the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme, the Small Arms and Demobilization Unit of the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Fund for International Partnerships. It should be noted that a contribution agreement has been signed with Sweden securing significant funding to the Centre for a duration of three years (2005-2007) in the amount of SKr 12 million. Several governmental entities and other institutions have also contributed to the work of the Centre by sharing or absorbing the costs of joint events, personnel and/or material resources. The Secretary-General wishes to express his gratitude for these contributions in support of the activities of the Centre.

50. The Centre is currently developing a new fund-raising strategy with a view to ensuring longer-term contribution agreements with donors to cover possibly five or more years of activities. It is worth noting that, during the period under review, the Centre has developed more partnerships and common projects with an increased number of countries and subregional and regional organizations. This expansion in partnerships will provide opportunities for joint fund-raising to secure longer-term financial support for the activities of the Centre.

51. The Centre has continued to adapt its programme of work to the realities and the needs of the region. It has continued to maintain its human resources capacity by building into project proposals the staffing requirements for each project. The Centre has also continued to pursue with the host Government the identification of a new and larger facility to accommodate more staff and equipment. Several consultations have taken place in 2004 and 2005 and a facility with sufficient space to house the Centre has been identified. Formal discussions between the United Nations and the host Government are expected to begin as from August 2005.

52. Pursuant to the consideration by the General Assembly of the Secretary-General's proposals for strengthening the security and safety of United Nations operations, staff and premises, funds have been allotted again from the regular budget to bring the security level of the Centre up to minimum operating security standards.

V. Observations and conclusions

53. The Centre has continued to provide assistance to States in the Latin American and Caribbean region in the implementation of regional initiatives in the areas of peace, disarmament and development. During the period under review, such assistance was provided in the form of weapons destructions and stockpile management; training courses for the law enforcement community, members of parliament and their advisers and representatives of NGOs; guidance on reporting in connection with weapons-related instruments; and the development of methodologies for future confidence-building measures between States. The Centre has also continued to develop activities that assist States to identify regional security needs and new areas of cooperation.

54. Concomitantly, the Centre has also intensified its coordination with other United Nations efforts towards peace and security in the region and therefore has been able to avoid duplication by synergizing its work with subregional, regional, global and non-governmental organizations. The results of the

Centre's activities during the reporting period have demonstrated its continued role as a viable regional actor in assisting States in the region to advance the cause of peace, disarmament and development in Latin America and the Caribbean.

55. The Centre has continued its public information strategy to ensure better dissemination of information on security issues as well as on the role of the United Nations in promoting peace, disarmament and development in the region among Government representatives, the military, NGOs and civil society. It has furthermore continued to strengthen its core and programme functions, fund-raising strategy and human resources capacity so as to enhance its operational capacity to assist Member States in the region.

56. The Secretary-General counts on the continued and increasing support and cooperation of Member States and organizations to ensure the effective functioning of the Centre.

Annex I

Status of the Trust Fund for the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean for 2004

(United States dollars)

Fund balance, 31 December 2003	1 045 944
Income, 1 January-31 December 2004	
Voluntary contributions ^a	1 341 309
Interest income	29 890
Other/miscellaneous income	38 343
Subtotal	2 455 486
Expenditures, 1 January-31 December 2004	1 906 597
Fund balance, 31 December 2004	548 889

Note: Information is based on the statement of income and expenditure for the 12-month period ending 31 December 2004. In 2004, contributions were received from Colombia (\$2,500), Guyana (\$997), Mexico (\$5,000), Sweden/Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (\$536,523), the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (\$643,500), the European Commission (\$19,662), Save the Children-Sweden (\$11,634) and the Swedish Fellowship of Reconciliation (\$121,492).

^a During the period from 1 January to 30 June 2005, additional contributions totalling \$289,337 were received from Guyana (\$987), Panama (\$1,000) and the United Kingdom (\$287,350).

Annex II

Planned activities of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean for which funding is sought

Project I

Title

Regional disarmament: practical contributions to the implementation of the Millennium Declaration

Purpose

To facilitate debate on regional disarmament and its practical contribution to the implementation of the recommendations in the Millennium Declaration. Discussions would include an assessment of the Centre's assistance to States and the integration of this support into the activities of the United Nations country team in Peru, the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, and the work of other United Nations agencies and programmes related to disarmament as well as activities that have an impact on the implementation of the Millennium Declaration. In addition, an assessment would also be made of disarmament and development projects in the region and of opportunities for increased coordination, cooperation and integration of assistance to States, including the identification of synergies of work undertaken by Governments and international and non-governmental organizations.

Location

Bridgetown: Caribbean Community (CARICOM) States

Santiago: Common Market of the South (MERCOSUR) and associated States

San Salvador: Central American Integration System (SICA) States

Caracas: Andean Community States

Duration

Two-day workshops

Number of participants

33 countries of the region: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

Cost estimates

(United States dollars)

Travel of participants (33)	44 900
Travel of experts (12)	40 700
Travel of staff	10 000
Interpretation (English, French and Spanish)	6 900
Workshop documentation	7 000
Total	109 500

Project II*Title*

Workshop series to promote peace and disarmament education

Purpose

To facilitate debate on peace and disarmament education projects, programmes and other activities undertaken by States, as well as to foster coordination and cooperation of similar United Nations activities. The workshop series will also provide an opportunity for States to address concepts of peace and disarmament education, implications for civic and social habits and their relationship to development-related initiatives. In addition, the workshops will include a discussion on common curriculum and coordination opportunities for subregional or regional joint actions. The workshop series will also serve to gather the donor community together so that the Centre may present policies and strategies to fund peace and disarmament education.

Location

St. John's: CARICOM States

Buenos Aires: MERCOSUR and associated States

San Jose: SICA States

Cusco, Peru: Andean Community States

Duration

Two-day workshops

Number of participants

33 countries of the region: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

Cost estimates

(United States dollars)

Travel of participants (33)	41 000
Travel of experts (12)	41 700
Travel of staff	10 000
Interpretation (English, French and Spanish)	6 900
Workshop documentation	7 000
Total	106 100

Project III*Title*

Latin American and Caribbean public security workshop series

Purpose

To foster discussions on public security in the region, to assist joint assessment of projects and programmes and to develop new coordination and cooperation initiatives among States and international and non-governmental organizations. This series of workshops will also be directed at providing an opportunity for the Centre to contribute to different local public security initiatives, notably by fostering activities of the Regional Network of City Mayors and the Regional Public Security Training Centre aimed at coordinating various projects on citizen security related to firearms, peace and disarmament education, and disarmament, demobilization and reintegration. It is expected that this series of workshops will strengthen the growing number of initiatives to address the issue of crime in all its aspects, be it in cities or related to the illicit trafficking of firearms across States.

Location

Port of Spain: CARICOM States

Montevideo: MERCOSUR and associated States

San Jose: SICA States

Tumbes, Peru: Andean Community States

Duration

Two-day workshops

Number of participants

33 countries of the region: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

Cost estimates

(United States dollars)

Travel of participants (33)	37 600
Travel of experts (12)	40 200
Travel of staff	10 000
Interpretation (English, French and Spanish)	6 900
Workshop documentation	7 000
Total	101 700

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**Social development, including questions relating
to the world social situation and to youth, ageing,
disabled persons and the family**

**Global analysis and evaluation of national action plans on
youth employment****Report of the Secretary-General***Summary*

The present report has been prepared pursuant to resolution 58/133, in which the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to include in his report to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session a global analysis and evaluation of national action plans on youth employment.

Section II of the report provides an overview of the challenges relating to youth employment and puts this issue in the context of the Millennium Declaration, including the interlinked international agenda on development and collective security. Section III provides an analysis and evaluation of 39 national action plans or progress reports on youth employment. This section analyses both the policy and programmatic orientations of these action plans and the process by which they were developed. Section IV draws a series of conclusions from this analysis and section V concludes with a series of recommendations regarding the role of the Secretary-General's Youth Employment Network as an enhanced peer exchange, support and review mechanism for catalysing action on youth employment at the national and global levels.

* A/60/150.



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I. Background

1. This report has been prepared in response to General Assembly resolutions 57/165 on promoting youth employment and 58/133 on policies and programmes involving youth, in which the Assembly encouraged Member States to prepare national reviews and action plans on youth employment and invited the International Labour Organization (ILO), within the overall framework of the Youth Employment Network, to prepare a global analysis and evaluation of progress made in that regard. The Assembly, in its resolution 58/133, specified that those national action plans on youth employment could either be integrated into Member States' national action plans on employment or be issued as separate documents. In that resolution also, it requested the Secretary-General to submit the global analysis and evaluation to it at its sixtieth session within the framework of its 10-year review of the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond. Guidelines for the preparation of the national reviews and action plans were provided to Member States in the form of a guidance note contained in annex I to the report of the Secretary-General on promoting youth employment (A/58/229).

2. Because of length constraints, the present report summarizes the findings of a larger report to be published by ILO on the global analysis of national action on youth employment. The present report should be read in conjunction with the World Youth Report 2005 (A/60/61-E/2005/7) and the report of the Secretary-General to the Commission for Social Development entitled "Review of further implementation of the World Summit for Social Development and the outcome of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly" (E/CN.5/2005/6).

II. Youth employment: overview of challenges

3. ILO estimates that around 88 million young women and men are unemployed throughout the world and many more young people are working long hours for low pay, struggling to survive in the informal economy.¹ This places the youth share of the total 186 million unemployed persons globally at 47 per cent, a particularly troublesome figure given that youth make up only 25 per cent of the working-age population. ILO also reports an increase in intermittent (temporary, part-time, casual) work and insecure arrangements for young people in both industrialized and developing economies.

4. In addition to the challenges of unemployment and underemployment, young people are confronted by further obstacles which make them especially vulnerable to social, economic, physical and psychological influences.² Many young people never complete secondary school, about two thirds of school dropouts are young girls and less than one fourth of girls attend secondary school in many developing countries. Furthermore, the majority of people newly infected with HIV/AIDS are young, with a higher infection rate among young women than young men. Other factors, in combination with young people's age, which make them especially vulnerable are disability, ethnic and social background or geographic location.

5. Since the adoption of the United Nations Millennium Declaration, the challenge of youth employment has been increasingly recognized by the international community. The Economic Commission for Africa, for example, has made specific recommendations with regard to youth employment, highlighting the

role of the Youth Employment Network in addressing this challenge. In particular, the Commission recommended that \$30 million should be allocated to help 25 sub-Saharan African countries prepare and begin implementation of national action plans on youth employment and to assist in leveraging additional resources recommended for the Africa Enterprise Challenge Fund and the infrastructure development fund towards the implementation of these national plans.

6. Youth employment also offers the most obvious bridge between the development and security agendas embodied in the Millennium Declaration. A poor economic and social environment can foster conditions in which young people are recruited or forced into armed conflicts, not only within their own countries, but also in neighbouring countries. Young people are often the prime victims of such conflicts. Civil wars and social conflicts can also have a negative impact on economic growth, investment and the secure development of entire regions. Employment growth is a key to reducing the tensions behind many security issues today, as well as other social challenges such as irregular migration, trafficking, gender inequality and poverty.

7. Following its mission to West Africa in July 2003, the Security Council reported that "in every country visited, the mission heard about the problem of unemployment, particularly among young people, and how this was a perennial source of instability in West Africa". The mission expressed the hope that the Office of the Special Representative for West Africa would undertake a major collaborative effort with its partners to devise a practical and concerted regional approach to this pressing problem.³ In a statement by its President of 25 February 2005 (S/PRST/2005/9), the Security Council reaffirmed the urgency of finding lasting solutions to the problem of youth unemployment in West Africa in order to prevent the recruitment of such youth by illegal armed groups.

8. There is no one cause of youth unemployment and underemployment, nor is there a single approach or strategy for addressing the challenge. However, the partners in the Youth Employment Network⁴ recognize that the responses should be integrated and comprehensive, addressing both supply and demand.

9. Whatever policy solutions are prescribed in a given context, young people need to be engaged as active partners in the design and implementation of policies that affect them. Rather than being a target group for which employment must be found, they should be considered partners in developing solutions. Hence, young people are not the problem but part of the solution.⁵ Young people urge Governments to address their concerns by ensuring that their voices are heard and their ideas integrated into policies that affect them. Young people are asking to be recognized not only as potential political and business leaders, workers and consumers of tomorrow, but especially as partners of today.

10. In the light of these facts and challenges, youth employment was made an integral part of the Millennium Declaration, both as an important target in its own right under Goal 8 of the Millennium Development Goals and as a key contribution to meeting other Millennium Goals.⁶ Little progress on implementing the Millennium Declaration will be achieved unless young people are provided with the resources, self-esteem and dignity which decent work can provide.

11. The expected 1.19 billion young people who will be entering the working age population over the next decade⁷ represent valuable human capital which, when

properly nurtured, managed and invested in, can provide a springboard for economic and social development. The international community, by focusing its efforts on this "millennium generation" has an unparalleled opportunity to achieve sustainable impact on all the Millennium Development Goals by the year 2015.

III. Analysis of action plans

A. Introduction

12. As of 30 June 2005, a total of 39 Member States⁸ had responded to the Secretary-General's note verbale of November 2004 requesting Member States to submit their plan or progress report, showing progress made in the elaboration of national reviews and action plans on youth employment. The global analysis and evaluation is based on these submissions.

13. Many other Member States have prepared or are in the process of preparing national action plans on youth employment, or other policy or strategic documents on employment or on youth which address youth employment. This is, for example, the case of those countries which have stepped forward as lead countries in the Youth Employment Network, but have not as yet submitted action plans or progress reports to the United Nations Secretariat.⁹ Furthermore, all 25 European Union member States have prepared national employment reports in the framework of the European Employment Strategy. The Governments of 10 of them have submitted reports in response to the above-mentioned resolutions of the General Assembly.

14. The global analysis examines the submissions from Member States against the guidelines provided in the Secretary-General's report on promoting youth employment (A/58/229, annex I). Specifically, an attempt was made to determine whether: (a) past policies and programmes on youth employment are reviewed and analysed as a basis for moving forward; (b) existing reports or policies on youth employment such as poverty reduction strategies, national youth policies and national employment policies, and reports on ILO conventions relevant to youth employment¹⁰ are drawn upon to ensure that the national action plan is integrated into national policymaking processes and funding mechanisms; (c) the preparation of the plan has involved young people, different government ministries and departments, employers, workers and civil society; (d) mechanisms, baseline indicators and statistical data have been put in place for monitoring progress and evaluating the national action plan, and baseline indicators or statistical data are provided to monitor progress; and (e) assistance has been sought in the drafting process from the Youth Employment Network core partner institutions (i.e., the International Labour Office, the World Bank or the United Nations Secretariat) or from other outside institutions.

15. The analysis seeks to identify whether the national action plan or progress report adopts an integrated approach, linking the supply and demand sides of youth employment policy. It examines if the four global priorities of employability, entrepreneurship, employment creation and equal opportunities have been adopted as a framework for analysis and action within the plan. Other areas given consideration in evaluation criteria used in the present report are the importance attached to information and communication technologies, links between child labour

and youth employment and the importance of youth employment in conflict prevention and resolution.

B. Policy and programmatic orientations of the national action plans

1. Integrated approach

16. The High-Level Panel on Youth Employment has recommended that countries adopt an integrated approach for employment policy development. Most submissions in fact focused on the supply side, namely on the question of preparing young people for the labour market through basic education, vocational training and entrepreneurship development. Nevertheless, other Member States addressed the need to create new job possibilities also, both through job creation schemes and through transforming undeclared work. Those countries which highlighted an integrated approach to youth employment focused on building up a competitive private sector, encouraging foreign and local investment, promoting entrepreneurship and enhancing the employability of the workforce, and equal opportunities, while seeking to reduce the rate of long-term unemployment. Youth employment policies are not just restricted to active labour market policies but extend to social, educational, tax, enterprise and regional policies. Many responses focused on promoting better matching between job opportunities and the available workforce, including through promoting gender equality and combating discrimination.

2. Employability

Education

17. Primary education is considered a prerequisite for successful entry into the labour market, and the importance of primary education for youth employment figured prominently in many replies received. Areas receiving particular attention included the need to grant equal access to primary education for both girls and boys, and in both rural and urban regions, and for the poor as well as for those who can afford to pay the costs of this education. Many countries are seeking to reduce the number of early school leavers. Equal opportunities for everyone are provided through the right of access to a minimum level of basic skills and in some cases also the right to secondary education. Some countries are addressing cultural barriers and making it more acceptable for young girls to attend school and complete their education.

18. The approach of Indonesia to universal basic education is to make it affordable to the poor and improve its quality. While the Syrian Arab Republic has enacted a non-discriminatory law on compulsory education, obliging municipalities to offer education to all, other countries are attempting to address the issue of school dropouts. In Portugal and Germany, programmes provide education, training courses and consultative services for parents and students, focusing on youth at risk and with learning difficulties. These interventions are aimed at preventing disadvantaged students from leaving school and joining the ranks of the unemployed. In Uganda, the Ministry of Education and Sport has teamed up with German Technical Cooperation (GTZ) to provide non-formal education with elements of pre-

vocational training to rural youth in a programme designed to address school dropout.

19. Serbia and Montenegro notes that the unemployment rate is higher among young people with high levels of education. This apparent anomaly exists in many countries where high levels of informal sector employment occupy the majority of the less educated workforce. This presents an inauspicious situation for young people, who may become disenchanted with education as few employment opportunities exist for the highly skilled. Japan and Lithuania have recently set up comprehensive job placement and career counselling offices to support graduates at all levels of their job search. In a school-to-work transition survey undertaken in Indonesia, young people reported that their primary reason for abandoning school was that they did not see the purpose of continuing education in the face of the low quality and inappropriateness of the skills they acquired. Education is, often seen, contrary to the conventional view, as lacking relevance for finding a job. Moreover, the need for financial security makes many young people seek employment prior to completing their basic education. The socio-economic environment can thus force children to leave school early and make them vulnerable to trafficking and to child labour.

Vocational training

20. Vocational training is an integral part of all of the replies submitted. Many countries have increased funding for vocational training and introduced courses to link vocational training with self-employment or entrepreneurial skills. Another prevalent means of improving employment opportunities for young people are internships and apprenticeships, which provide tangible work experience required by employers. Monaco and Singapore work with educational institutions to provide these opportunities. Some programmes establish formal training agreements with employers while others subsidize enterprises which hire young people. In some countries, employers voluntarily provide work experience opportunities to young people as they see them as making a unique contribution to the workplace with their enthusiasm, energy, commitment, innovation and willingness to embrace change. Many countries encourage and foster partnerships between employers, workers and educational institutions.

21. Although career choice tends to be individual, Governments recognize that they must provide support for young people to enable them to realize their career ambitions. Nearly all of the plans included measures to improve the preparation of graduates for the labour market. In most countries, schools are principally responsible for student career counselling and guiding students into higher education or the professions. Reports mention measures to improve employment services, such as job fairs, job centres, information dissemination and improving the job-seeking skills of candidates.

22. Breaking down stereotypes regarding unpopular careers is important across many job categories, and some countries have found that they need to encourage young people to take on the jobs which are available, even if those jobs are out of favour.

3. Entrepreneurship

23. Some countries report efforts to create the right economic environment for the development of small and medium-sized enterprises, with a principal focus on making it easy to do business. Some have adopted a "making work pay" approach favouring across-the-board social security and taxation reforms. Reducing "red tape" and unnecessary regulatory burdens can go a long way to attract investment, support entrepreneurs and stimulate new businesses. Some countries have also made access to finance much easier, which can help encourage innovation and the creation of new businesses. Subsidies and tax incentives are also offered to businesses that create jobs for young people, including young people with disabilities.

24. Promoting entrepreneurial activity is recognized in many national action plans as an important means of employment creation. Policymakers are trying to make self-employment and business development a preferred option for young people by building up an enterprise culture, creating the right environment and providing access to the tools necessary to create and maintain a business. The first step is to change cultural attitudes in schools towards entrepreneurship by promoting it as a career choice. In the United Kingdom, students aged 14 to 16 in secondary schools across the country will receive at least five days of enterprise education. Furthermore, a business-led campaign, Make Your Mark, will help promote a spirit of enterprise in young people. Improving the effectiveness of entrepreneurship training in vocational schools and developing a media campaign to promote youth entrepreneurship are among the support mechanisms reported.

25. Business start-ups are a key factor for the dynamism of any economy and many countries are implementing measures to make it easier for young people to start and run their own businesses. Some countries are strengthening microfinance institutions and providing incentives for young borrowers who target specific themes. Pakistan, Senegal and the Syrian Arab Republic promote banks and funds for small-enterprise development and support young entrepreneurs in rural areas. Mexico and Colombia report on supporting young men and women in formulating project proposals and business plans, as well as through financing their start-ups.

26. Microfinance also plays a critical role in empowering women, delivering new-found respect, independence, community participation and household income. Therefore, some countries have established funds earmarked for women. In addition to money, Saudi Arabia is providing access to property for women to start up a business. Burkina Faso has designated funds for young people to establish small and medium-sized enterprises, to formalize business ventures in the informal economy and to support innovation by young women. In Algeria, young people without a credit history have access to financial services in order to invest in self-employment activities. The United Kingdom has established a framework for women entrepreneurs which highlights four key areas for action: improving business support services; access to finance; caring and childcare; and transition from receiving benefits to self-employment. It reports an increase in female-owned start-ups.

27. Indonesia is fostering linkages between large and small enterprises, believing that large companies have knowledge, expertise, resources and networks and can provide an effective channel for small and medium-sized enterprises and start-ups to access necessary support.

4. Equal opportunities

28. The national reports and action plans address equal opportunities both with respect to gender and from the standpoint of vulnerable groups. Countries report that diversification of opportunities for women can be achieved by breaking down occupational gender stereotyping and by providing equal access to training for both young women and young men.

29. Many of the documents submitted, in addition to presenting equal opportunities from a gender perspective, gave special attention to ethnic minorities, youth with disabilities, migrants or young people growing up in unfavourable environments. For example, Germany provides pre-vocational training measures for young people with disabilities, youth from low-income families and those with a weak educational background. In Thailand, the Ministry of Labour organizes career days for juveniles living in detention centres, while Bulgaria has special programmes targeted at providing professional guidance and advice to young people raised in institutions, to help them prepare to make the transition to the world of work in the outside world.

30. Indonesia is addressing gender stereotypes in curricula and gender segregation in education. In addition, it is going to conduct rigorous awareness-raising campaigns to change the traditional perception of gender roles and the division of responsibilities between women and men. Finland is currently amending the Act on Equality between Women and Men. The new Act, which will enter into effect in 2005, will reinforce the duty to promote equality and to eliminate discrimination. The Russian Federation targets young women who are socially vulnerable and might face difficulties in the labour market, such as single mothers, women with disabilities and women released from penal institutions. The United Kingdom highlights a recent report that presented a correlation between underrepresentation of women and skills shortages. It concluded that a gender-segregated labour force not only promotes inequality in pay and opportunities, but also denies employers access to the key skills needed to improve productivity. A national strategy is being developed to ensure a consistent approach to tackling occupational segregation. It will be informed by research into reasons why young men and women are not training in areas of skills shortages.

31. Hungary reports on its suburban "Sand Lot" school, which recruits disadvantaged young people between the ages of 16 and 25 who have no skills, have dropped out of school and are hanging out aimlessly. The project helps participants return to school by offering customized training matching their abilities and desires. The programme locates the drifting young people with the help of local social workers. Norway addresses dropouts with its "youth guarantee", which ensures that all young people are in school, hold a job or are in a labour market programme.

32. In Brazil, the national "first job" programme, launched in 2003, is aimed at combating poverty and social exclusion through combining employment and income policies with a public and private investment policy. It targets youth with little schooling, from vulnerable groups and from low-income families and those subject to discrimination. Croatia has implemented a programme, targeting youth from a range of educational levels, to ease the transition from school to the workplace by providing short-term subsidies for employers hiring young people. Nicaragua supports youth from poor rural areas in both self-employment and agricultural cooperatives, in the areas of technical and managerial skills, access to credit and

new technology. The Dominican Republic has a specific plan to place disabled youth in the labour market by working with prospective employers, by helping workers with disabilities to overcome obstacles to obtaining and sustaining employment and by disseminating public information about the situation of workers with disabilities.

5. Employment creation

33. A number of Governments reported on policy measures and investment strategies to stimulate job creation. Key areas are labour-intensive infrastructure development, fiscal and other incentives for business development and encouraging the development of economic sectors with employment potential, such as agriculture, the service sector and information and communication technologies. Other countries, such as the Netherlands, have launched public education campaigns to counteract the perception that unemployed young people are not productive or have nothing to offer.

34. The United Republic of Tanzania and Pakistan report on schemes involving youth groups in labour-intensive activities such as building farm-to-market roads, irrigation, garbage collection and drainage. The objective of these programmes is to reduce poverty and improve living conditions while at the same time creating employment opportunities. The Tanzanian programmes seek to limit the increasing number of school dropouts migrating from rural to urban areas to seek employment. The Government promotes labour-intensive infrastructure development for organized youth groups undertaking agricultural activities in green belts around urban centres, to absorb unemployed young people. In an attempt to promote farming in order to address hunger and poverty, the Government also provides information to increase productivity and competitiveness and offers tax relief on agricultural tools and machinery. The Government also has policies to help young people acquire land. It has allocated special property areas designated for youth infrastructure development and enacted laws to protect young people from discrimination in leasing land.

35. The Syrian Arab Republic has established a national committee specifically to develop and implement activities aimed at generating employment and reducing poverty. By creating opportunities in production and service-oriented sectors, it seeks to provide goods and services that generate employment and hence that can also help alleviate poverty.

36. The Republic of Korea is focusing its efforts on highly educated yet unemployed college graduates, while recognizing that a sustainable impact on youth employment must be based on an economic recovery centred on job creation. However, the Government is concerned that if young people are left unemployed until the economy recovers, they might lose their employability, limiting their future labour market prospects, as well as hindering national competitiveness. The Government aims to break away from the conventional view that employment accompanies growth and is reviewing economic and labour policies from the perspective of job creation. In addition, it is working to establish a business-friendly environment by stabilizing the labour market, improving the corporate investment and management environment through cooperative labour/management relationships and subsidizing those small and medium-sized enterprises that create new jobs.

37. Azerbaijan identifies three major strategies for job creation: active labour market programmes such as public works and wage subsidies, exploiting oil sector revenues to finance employment-intensive public works and promoting a conducive environment for small and medium-sized enterprise development.

38. Algeria notes that aggressive "pre-employment" programmes help young people make the transition from school to the workplace by enabling them to acquire valuable experience in a professional environment, thus making them more attractive candidates for permanent employment.

39. Brazil reports on its programme to create jobs through financial subsidies. For each new job created there is a financial incentive of 1,500 reais. This programme will be closely monitored to guarantee decent working conditions for newly hired young people. A company which is willing to participate in the programme without receiving incentives are publicly recognized by the Ministry of Labour and Employment as "Partner Company in the First Job Program".

40. Other countries report that they are seeking to exploit new opportunities in emerging sectors, to promote those industries making a specific contribution to development and to stimulate economic diversification. Slovenia recognizes that a coordinated response among all government agencies is necessary to facilitate the creation of new jobs. In Oman, an economic diversification policy is emphasizing sectors such as tourism, recognizing its direct and indirect employment creation impact. The Government recognizes that growth can be more or less employment intensive and is looking to achieve a better balance between employment growth and productivity growth, considering the economic and social constraints facing the country.

41. Indonesia also seeks to exploit opportunities in emerging sectors such as tourism, mass media, health and education, environmental conservation, the service sector and information and communication technologies (ICTs). Regarding the latter, Indonesia furthermore recognizes that ICTs are a key driver for growth and jobs in other sectors, since they can help most enterprises improve productivity and remain competitive. Another sector receiving support is that of agro-industries, which can strengthen urban-rural linkages critical for job creation, poverty reduction and combating hunger. Indonesia also seeks to mainstream youth employment issues into local economic development initiatives.

42. The most technically sound policies for youth employment are likely to fail unless they are based on a clear understanding of young people's aspirations, frustrations and expectations vis-à-vis the labour market. A major concern for youth is to find not just any job, but jobs that are sustainable, provide an opportunity for advancement and have good working conditions. Most submissions did not address the issues of quality and sustainability, but some did report on working conditions. Mexico, for example, points out its concern for young workers' rights and seeks to develop actions to eliminate the exploitation of youth, improve working conditions and ensure proper remuneration of work. Brazil notes that employers must recognize workers' rights deriving from collective agreements of the categories to which they belong, and must also guarantee the conditions under which a young person continues in or returns to school. Indonesia is seeking to provide improved protection for women workers overseas. The Slovak Republic emphasizes the creation of jobs for disadvantaged groups.

C. The process of formulating and developing national action plans on youth employment

43. The guidelines for the preparation of national action plans on youth employment (A/58/229, annex I) emphasize the need to first carry out a critical review of past national policies. However, very few responses indicate that such a review has been undertaken. Likewise, little information was provided on previous policies and strategies relevant to youth employment, such as poverty reduction strategies, national youth policies, national employment policies or reports on relevant ILO conventions. Only one country reports that it is reviewing its past employment policies, specific youth plans and poverty reduction strategies to develop a strategic approach to addressing youth employment.

44. Many submissions include statistics outlining the current employment situation for youth. However, only a couple of countries indicate that they have a monitoring and evaluation mechanism in place with baseline indicators or statistical data to monitor progress.

45. The guidelines also emphasize the importance of the national action plans being undertaken through a consultative process involving different departments of government, youth organizations and young people, as well as representatives of employers, workers, the private sector and civil society organizations. Argentina, Brazil, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Mexico, the Netherlands, Poland, the Syrian Arab Republic, the Republic of Korea, the United Republic of Tanzania and the United Kingdom are among the countries reporting on various consultative mechanisms for national action plan or youth employment policy development. Involvement of employers' organizations is rather frequent, as is that of governmental ministries other than the ones directly working in the areas of youth or labour. Those who reported engaging other stakeholders note the added value to policies and implementation. Whereas some countries recognize consultation as part of their process to develop a strategy, the majority of the submissions provide few specifics about this consultative process.

46. Youth involvement appears to have been weak and is mentioned in only a few submissions. A few countries report engaging youth in policymaking while others state that they encourage youth groups and organizations. Some provide financial or technical support to youth movements and others encourage cooperation between youth organizations and government at the local and national levels to protect youth interests and needs. Overall, few countries mention budgetary allocations to support implementation of their national action plans.

47. Some countries seek to build bridges between government, educational institutions and the business community as they see the benefit of business involvement in identifying future labour needs and of educating and training youth to meet those demands. Business, including foreign owned companies, can often provide expertise on technology, industrial standards and skills. In this regard, the Republic of Korea ensures that industry and universities work together to meet future skills demand. Universities that establish new departments to meet industrial needs through a contract with companies are eligible for governmental financial support for facilities and research costs. In addition, a system has been established to evaluate whether college curricula meet industrial demands.

48. The Republic of Korea has, furthermore, forged a tripartite social pact on job creation. The Government strives to create a better investment environment for business and devises measures to improve the income levels of low-income families and to enhance the social safety net. Such policies are intended to encourage employers to expand investment for youth employment and to use human resources more effectively. Workers agree to cooperate in improving productivity and in stabilizing incomes.

49. Some countries also note the involvement of additional actors, such as the Youth Employment Network core partners (ILO, the United Nations and the World Bank), other international organizations, donors and civil society. The most popular form of collaboration is within government, as many submissions note the engagement of other agencies in special committees, round-table discussions, task teams or workshops.

50. The relevant United Nations General Assembly resolutions on youth employment (57/165 and 58/133) invite Governments to draw upon the expertise of ILO, the United Nations and the World Bank in the formulation, implementation and evaluation of action plans. Among the limited number of countries which report seeking assistance from these Youth Employment Network core partner institutions are Azerbaijan, Brazil, the Dominican Republic, Indonesia, Nicaragua and Uganda. Uganda also reports on its partnerships with the German development cooperation agency GTZ.¹¹

IV. Conclusions

51. Since the adoption of the Millennium Declaration in September 2000, the urgency of the commitment to give young people everywhere access to decent and productive work has only increased. Unemployment and underemployment of young people are not only a social concern, but they also have economic and, increasingly, political dimensions.

52. In those countries which have social protection, such as unemployment insurance or welfare protection, youth unemployment represents an enormous drain on national and local budgets, while at the same time representing a terrible waste of the capabilities and potential contribution to social development of the best educated generation of young people ever. In those countries without institutional social protection, the burden of youth unemployment is felt in other ways. It is felt by families who have foregone income and invested in the education of their daughters and sons, only to find themselves continuing to provide income support to their grown children, who are increasingly frustrated and bitter at finding themselves "unemployable". It is felt by young people from low-income families who cannot afford the "luxury" of open unemployment and are therefore struggling to survive in low-income, dead-end and often dangerous jobs in the informal economy. And the burden of youth unemployment is borne by all those living in communities and societies where youth unemployment is the root cause of destructive and self-destructive behaviour, ranging from activity in neighbourhood gangs to membership of local militias, where unemployed young people desperately seek not only income, but also recognition and a sense of belonging.

53. Given the social, economic and political costs of youth unemployment and underemployment, inaction is not an option.

54. The 39 national reports and action plans on youth employment show clearly that countries are actively seeking answers, while at the same time doing much and learning in the process. The experiences reported on are both rich and diverse. A number of broad conclusions can be drawn from these reports.

55. The first is that there is no magic bullet, no one single policy that "works" and which can be exported to other countries as a "good practice". Rather, policies and actions to address youth employment require a coherent and integrated approach which prepares young people for the labour market while, at the same time, preparing the labour market for young people. When the High-Level Panel on Youth Employment proposed a coherent and integrated approach to youth employment, based on the four global priorities of employability, entrepreneurship, equal opportunities and employment creation, it recognized the importance of linking supply- and demand-based perspectives.

56. A second conclusion is that reported youth employment policies have focused largely on the supply side. Many countries report on initiatives to make general education more employment oriented. Others point out the importance of helping young people to create their own employment opportunities through self-employment and entrepreneurship development. Major investments are being made in upgrading and continually re-evaluating vocational training programmes, focused not just on traditional occupations, but also on developing those skills which are essential in a world where young people must expect to change jobs and careers often during their lifetime. Another key element for preparing young people for the world of work is to provide them with work experience. A combination of both training and on-the-job experience underpins the German dual track training system which has helped keep the youth unemployment rate close to the unemployment rate for the population as a whole, a system which has been replicated in different forms according to national circumstances by many other countries.

57. A third conclusion is that all these efforts to prepare young people better for the world of work are likely to fail unless they are accompanied by policies which actually create new and additional employment opportunities for young people coming onto the labour market. While many countries speak of a "mismatch" between skills and the kinds of labour market opportunities available, the overall problem of youth employment is related to the inability of most economic policies to create employment opportunities of a quality which responds to the expectations and the aspirations of young people. Rather than asking the new generation to lower its expectations, policymakers should be working to foster employment-intensive economic growth from both the quantitative and qualitative perspectives.

58. Therefore policies to foster employability and entrepreneurship must necessarily be accompanied by measures to stimulate demand and create additional jobs. More broadly speaking, employment creation should become a central goal — not a by-product — of government policies for investment and economic growth. One specific area on which a number of Governments have reported favourably is increasing the employment impact of infrastructure investment policies, including through labour-intensive public works. While these programmes need not be specifically targeted towards young people alone, they, the new entrants to the labour market, will usually be the prime beneficiaries.

59. Fourth, youth employment should not be approached from a target group angle or simply as a sub-set of the labour market. If policymakers focus their energies first

on creating sound employment outcomes for young people, the results can be expected to have a sustainable impact on the youth cohort throughout its life cycle and to have positive spill-over effects on other age groups. Rather than adopting policies which favour youth to the detriment of other age groups, policies in favour of youth employment should be promoted with a view to improving the situation of all age groups within the labour market (for example, employment for young people is essential for the viability and sustainability of retirement funds and unemployment insurance).

60. Fifth, a consultative process is required for national action plans to have broad-based ownership, which in turn is required for the measures to achieve their intended impact. Consultation with and the participation of representative youth organizations in the preparation of most national action plans has been either weak or inadequately reported. The most technically sound policies are bound to fail if they are not developed and implemented through dialogue with the young people who are their intended beneficiaries. Likewise, the involvement of representative employer and worker organizations has been on the whole inadequate.

61. Sixth, most countries not only have a lot to learn from each other, but are also thirsty for this information and knowledge. The added value of the Youth Employment Network is that it provides a mechanism for the sharing of knowledge and experience among its partners, strengthened by the fundamental principle that everyone, irrespective of the country's level of development, has something to learn and everyone has something to share.

62. A seventh conclusion is that meeting the commitment relating to youth employment contained in the Millennium Declaration requires concerted and coordinated action not only at the local and national levels, but also internationally. Whereas Member States must begin their efforts at home and in their local communities, success in achieving decent and productive work for young people is dependent on a number of elements which extend beyond national borders and which are governed by international practices, policies and agreements in areas such as foreign direct investment, international trade, migration and financial flows.

63. Eighth, developing strategies and programmes for youth employment provides a powerful tool for building political consensus and policy coherence, both at the level of international institutions, such as between the World Bank and ILO, and also at the level of different national Governmental departments (such as labour, finance, education, foreign affairs, trade and industry departments), youth organizations, employers' and workers' representatives and civil society organizations. In view of the broad agreement among different political and interest groups on the importance of youth employment, joint action on youth employment can build trust and confidence for reaching agreements in more controversial areas of economic and social policy, and even for resolving political disputes. Accordingly, it is noteworthy that the Youth Employment Network has become a forum for building coherence and consensus around economic and social policies and for dialogue between young people and policymakers.

64. Finally, and with respect to building political consensus, youth employment provides a bridge between security, peacebuilding and development and the proposal of the High-Level Panel on Youth Employment for a major new policy and action-oriented initiative on the links between youth employment and collective security merits serious consideration and support.

V. Recommendations

65. The Youth Employment Network provides an important vehicle for realizing the commitment contained in the Millennium Declaration to provide "decent and productive work for young people". The Youth Employment Network derives its strength and solidarity from the leadership of its partner entities, including the growing group of Network countries which have voluntarily stepped forward to provide leadership on this issue and have committed themselves to ensuring policy coherence for the promotion of youth employment. In this regard, the General Assembly may wish to consider the following recommendations:

(a) Encouraging those countries which have prepared national reviews and action plans on youth employment to move forward to the implementation stage and, through a process of learning by doing, to continue improving the analytical foundations and impact of their actions. Other countries which have not yet prepared national action plans should be encouraged to do so. All countries which have not yet submitted their national reviews and action plans, or progress reports, to the Youth Employment Network focal point within the United Nations Secretariat are encouraged to do so as soon as possible;

(b) Also encouraging Governments to develop their national action plans through collaboration between government, representative youth organizations, employers' and workers' organizations and civil society, and to promote partnerships between public authorities, the private sector, educational institutions and civil society. Governments should also be encouraged to integrate their action plans into their broader development and poverty reduction strategy documents, and to prioritize therein the necessary resources for implementation of these plans;

(c) Encouraging Governments to devise new policy-oriented indicators to monitor and evaluate progress on implementing their national action plans. Recognizing that the unemployment rate for 15 to 24-year-olds does not provide an adequate basis for monitoring progress at the national, regional and global levels on achieving the Millennium Declaration target of decent and productive work for young people, recommends that the Youth Employment Network coordinate the work of its core partners to establish an improved indicator which takes into account not only those in open unemployment, but also those young people who are in education, who are underemployed, who are working in the informal economy and who may have dropped out of the labour market altogether;

(d) Further encouraging Member States to consider youth employment as integral to their overall strategies for development and collective security, and within this context to give renewed attention to the Millennium Declaration commitment concerning "decent and productive work for young people". This commitment should be seen as underpinning and key to achieving the Millennium Development Goals, including poverty reduction, the achievement of equal opportunities and the fight against HIV/AIDS. Over the next 10 years, efforts should be focused on giving young people between the ages of 15 and 24 access to decent and productive employment opportunities and, by accompanying and nurturing this generation over the coming decade, providing

the global community with its best chance for attaining all of the Millennium Development Goals by the year 2015;

(e) **Renewing and strengthening the invitation made in General Assembly resolutions 57/165 and 58/133 to the Youth Employment Network, under the leadership of the International Labour Organization and in close partnership with the United Nations Secretariat, the World Bank and other relevant specialized agencies, to assist and support, upon request, the efforts of Governments in the elaboration and implementation of national reviews and action plans;**

(f) **Strengthening the Youth Consultative Group of the Youth Employment Network so that, in addition to its overall advisory role, its constituent youth organizations can play a more active role at the country level to support the development and implementation of national action plans;**

(g) **Inviting new countries and partner organizations to join the Youth Employment Network and encouraging the lead countries to strengthen the work of the Network as a peer exchange, support and review mechanism; and in support of the further development of this mechanism, inviting the International Labour Organization, within the framework of the Youth Employment Network and in close cooperation with the World Bank and the United Nations, to undertake an annual update of this global analysis and evaluation of progress made in the development and implementation of national reviews and action plans on youth employment;**

(h) **Having taken note of the financial contributions made for both the core resource requirements of the Youth Employment Network secretariat and for the country-level work of its partner organizations, encouraging Member States to provide additional financial resources to strengthen and expand the work of the Network at the national, regional and international levels.**

Notes

¹ International Labour Office, *Global Employment Trends for Youth* (Geneva, 2004).

² Youth Employment Summit Secretariat: Youth unemployment: The current scenario (May 2002), from: <http://www.yesweb.org/docs/issuestatement.pdf>.

³ See S/2003/688, para. 76.

⁴ The Youth Employment Network is an initiative of the Secretary-General launched to implement the commitment set out in the Millennium Declaration to provide young people everywhere with access to decent and productive work. It is composed of 15 lead countries, the Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on Youth Employment, a Youth Consultative Group and a growing network of partner organizations from both within the United Nations system and civil society, and is coordinated under the joint leadership of the Secretary-General, the Director-General of the International Labour Office and the President of the World Bank. ILO is the lead agency for the Network and hosts its permanent secretariat.

⁵ See letter from the Secretary-General to the President of the General Assembly on follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit (A/56/422).

⁶ Investing in youth by promoting youth employment is an investment in meeting the Millennium Development Goals since it can directly contribute to: eradicating extreme poverty and hunger; achieving universal primary education; promoting gender equality and empowering women; and developing a global partnership for development. By improving the economic and social

situation of people, it can indirectly contribute to reducing child mortality; improving maternal health; and combating HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases.

⁷ ILO estimates, based on the cumulative number of young people entering the 15 to 24-year-old age cohort over the next 10 years.

⁸ For the list of Member States that submitted a national review and action plan, or a report on progress towards such a plan, see annex I.

⁹ As of the writing of the present report, the countries which have volunteered to be Youth Employment Network lead countries are: Azerbaijan, Brazil, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Mali, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Syria, Uganda and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Only seven of these 15 lead countries have as yet submitted national action plans or progress reports.

¹⁰ For example, the Employment Policy Convention, 1964 (No. 122), the Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138), the Human Resources Development Convention, 1975 (No. 142) and the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182).

¹¹ Whereas few countries reported on receiving support from the Youth Employment Network core partner institutions, the Network secretariat is in contact with a number of lead countries, including Azerbaijan, Brazil, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Mali, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Syria and Uganda to support the development and implementation of their action plans.

Annex I**List of countries that submitted national action plans or progress reports (as of 30 June 2005)**

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1. Algeria | 21. Nicaragua |
| 2. Argentina | 22. Norway |
| 3. Azerbaijan | 23. Oman |
| 4. Brazil | 24. Pakistan |
| 5. Bulgaria | 25. Poland |
| 6. Burkina Faso | 26. Portugal |
| 7. Colombia | 27. Republic of Korea |
| 8. Croatia | 28. Russian Federation |
| 9. Dominican Republic | 29. Saudi Arabia |
| 10. Finland | 30. Senegal |
| 11. Germany | 31. Serbia and Montenegro |
| 12. Hungary | 32. Singapore |
| 13. Indonesia | 33. Slovakia |
| 14. Japan | 34. Slovenia |
| 15. Jordan | 35. Syrian Arab Republic |
| 16. Kenya | 36. Thailand |
| 17. Lithuania | 37. Uganda |
| 18. Mexico | 38. United Kingdom of Great Britain and
Northern Ireland |
| 19. Monaco | 39. United Republic of Tanzania |
| 20. Netherlands | |

Annex II

Criteria for a global analysis and evaluation of national action plans on youth employment

A. The process of developing the national action plan

1. Does the action plan utilize the framework laid out in the guidelines for the preparation of national reviews and action plans provided in the United Nations Secretary-General's report on promoting youth employment (A/58/229, annex I)?
2. Before preparing the national action plan did the Government undertake a review of past policies and programmes on youth employment?
3. As suggested in the guidelines, has the Government drawn on existing reports or policy statements on youth employment (e.g., Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers, reports of the International Labour Organization Employment Policy Convention (No. 122), national youth policies or national employment policies)?
4. Has the preparation of the plan been a participatory process?
 - Involving young people?
 - Involving different government ministries and departments?
 - Involving social partners?
 - Involving civil society?
5. What is the nature and depth of this participatory process?
6. What mechanisms are in place for monitoring and evaluation of the national action plan? What baseline indicators or statistical data are provided to monitor progress?
7. Have the parties developing this action plan sought assistance from the Youth Employment Network core partner institutions (i.e., ILO, the World Bank or the United Nations) or from other outside institutions in this process?

B. Substance and priorities of the national action plan

8. Does the national action plan adopt an integrated approach linking the supply and demand sides of youth employment policy?
9. What are the salient issues raised in the following categories (including the Youth Employment Network's four global priorities)?
 - Employability — education; vocational training; work experience; career guidance and job counselling; school-to-work transition; other issues
 - Entrepreneurship
 - Equal opportunities
 - Employment creation — linking youth employment to macroeconomic policy; policies to stimulate demand and to create additional jobs for new labour

market entrants; linking youth employment to overall employment policies, including intergenerational aspects; investment policies

- Importance of information and communication technologies
 - Links between child labour and youth employment
 - Impact of youth employment on conflict prevention and resolution
-

**General Assembly**

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Item 73 (b) of the provisional agenda*

**Human rights questions, including alternative approaches
for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and
fundamental freedoms**

**Strengthening United Nations action in the field of
human rights through the promotion of international
cooperation and the importance of non-selectivity,
impartiality and objectivity**

Report of the Secretary-General

I. Introduction

1. In its resolutions 56/153 of 19 December 2001, 57/203 of 18 December 2002, 58/168 of 22 December 2003 and 59/190 of 20 December 2004, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to prepare a comprehensive report on the strengthening of United Nations action in the field of human rights through the promotion of international cooperation based on the principles of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity, taking into account the views of Member States. Furthermore, the Assembly decided to continue consideration of the question at its sixtieth session under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

2. In compliance with paragraph 11 of those resolutions, the Secretary-General, in a note verbale dated 25 February 2005, invited Member States to present practical proposals and ideas that would contribute to the strengthening of United Nations action in the field of human rights through the promotion of international cooperation based on the principles of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity.

3. As of 5 July 2005, a reply had been received from the Government of Georgia, which is reproduced below. Additional replies received, if any, will be issued as addenda to the present report.

* A/60/150.



II. Replies received from Governments

Georgia

[Original: French]

[4 April 2005]

4. The protection and encouragement of human rights and freedom have always been priority objectives of the country's political leaders. Despite difficulties during the past few years, the principle of the primacy of human rights, which was of great importance for the country's democratic development, has always been respected by the Georgian authorities.

5. Following the adoption of the Georgian Constitution, new legislation has been developed, which is essentially derived from the norms and principles of international law. Georgian law, which is in conformity with the country's Constitution and the international treaties to which it is party, plays a decisive role in the effective protection of human rights. It should be noted that, in accordance with the national Constitution, international treaties to which Georgia is party, if not contrary to the Constitution, have a higher legal rank than domestic laws.

6. Georgia continues its fruitful cooperation with international organizations in the field of human rights. The Government pays particular attention to the commitments entered into under the two United Nations covenants and four conventions on human rights, punctually submits reports to the competent bodies concerning their implementation, participates in the relevant deliberations and respects the recommendations of the appropriate committees.

7. Georgia actively collaborates with United Nations special rapporteurs on human rights. This was exemplified by the visit to Georgia of Mr. Manfred Nowak, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the question of torture, who was invited by the Government in February 2005. Georgia's competent institutions maintain permanent contacts with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

8. As regards concrete proposals for strengthening United Nations action in the field of human rights, we think that, at present, the full potential of the United Nations is not being used. In this context, we endorse the new initiative of the Secretary-General concerning the establishment of a Human Rights Council to replace the Commission on Human Rights. Clearly, if this reform is successful, the effectiveness of all the human rights protection mechanisms would have to be strengthened.

9. Furthermore, we think that the reform of the United Nations reporting system needs to be accelerated; this would significantly facilitate access to and objective evaluation of information on the current human rights situation in the various Member States.



General Assembly

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Sixtieth session

Item 100 (b) of the provisional agenda*

**Review of the implementation of the recommendations and
decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth
special session**

United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research

Note by the Secretary-General

The Secretary-General hereby transmits to the General Assembly the report of the Director of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research on the activities of the Institute for the period from August 2004 to July 2005 and the proposed programme of work and estimated budget for 2005 and 2006.

The report was considered and approved for submission to the General Assembly by the Board of Trustees of the Institute at the forty-fifth session of the Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters, held from 29 June to 1 July 2005.

* A/60/150.



**Report of the Director of the United Nations Institute for
Disarmament Research on the activities of the Institute for the
period from August 2004 to July 2005 and the proposed
programme of work and budget for 2005-2006**

Summary

The General Assembly issued a standing request in 1984 for the Director of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) to report to the Assembly on the activities of the Institute on a yearly basis. To that end, the Director prepared the present report covering the activities of the Institute during the period from August 2004 to July 2005 for the consideration of the Board of Trustees of the Institute at the forty-first session of the Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters, held from 29 June to 1 July 2005.

The Director reports that the UNIDIR work programme continued to be centred on three main areas: global security and disarmament; regional security and disarmament; and human security and disarmament, thus addressing the full range of substantive disarmament issues from small arms to weapons in space.

A subvention from the United Nations regular budget is the guarantee of the independence of UNIDIR. By means of the present report, the Board of Trustees transmits to the Secretary-General a recommendation for a subvention for the Institute from the regular budget for the year 2006. The Director also reports on the status of the voluntary funds from Governments and philanthropic foundations.

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1. The present report informs the Board of Trustees of the activities of UNIDIR during the period August 2004 to July 2005 and the planned programme for 2006 and beyond.

I. Management and staffing

2. The work of UNIDIR is carried out with a dedicated small staff: a director, a deputy director, an administrative assistant, a specialized secretary for publications, a part-time computer systems manager, a research programmes and publications manager, a part-time conference organizer, a part-time fund-raising assistant, editors for the journal and for reports and books, and project researchers. UNIDIR staff numbers continue to grow, and core staff members are on one-year renewable contracts. A stronger core staff is being developed to reinforce the Institute's research programme. All attempts are being made to increase the core and project income of UNIDIR, so that staff numbers can be increased and contracts can be improved. Over the last year, UNIDIR had 29 staff members, 2 of which were directing staff, 3 support staff (administrative and technical), 5 core substantive programme staff, 12 project research staff and 7 visiting research fellows. In 2004-2005, UNIDIR sustained its Young Researchers programme, hosting 26 young researchers from 20 countries. Women are well represented on the UNIDIR staff: two thirds of the staff is female, including the Director.

3. The present report covers a period of institutional restructuring due to UNIDIR's needs as a growing institute. The Institute is increasing its outreach — including developing a network of UNIDIR alumni — increasing the emphasis on skills development through training of core staff and setting up the computerization of the growing resource library.

II. Subvention from the United Nations regular budget

4. A subvention, used to cover the costs of the Director and administration, is necessary for the coming biennium. Such a subvention is important not only economically, but also to ensure the independence of the Institute. The subvention is currently set at \$238,200, and is cost adjusted. The cost-adjusted UNIDIR subvention in 2004 was \$274,200 and is \$202,300 in 2005.

5. In view of the importance of the United Nations subvention, continuing support for its increase and continuing cost adjustment is needed to facilitate growth in voluntary income. A note by the Secretary-General on the continuing need for a subvention for UNIDIR was submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session, in September 2004 (A/C.5/59/3/Add.1).

III. Recent and planned activities

6. The Institute research programme comprises three areas: global security and disarmament, regional security and disarmament, and human security and disarmament.

A. Global security and disarmament

7. Much of the focus of the work of UNIDIR is on global security and disarmament. This includes research on the implementation of treaties already agreed and on issues relevant to current or potential negotiations.

1. Conference on Disarmament

8. UNIDIR continues to be actively engaged in a range of consultations on the issues pertaining to the work of the Conference on Disarmament. UNIDIR is involved in discussions and seminars on Conference on Disarmament reform, the participation of civil society, fissile materials, nuclear disarmament, terrorism and weapons of mass destruction, security assurances and outer space issues.

2. Nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation

9. In April 2005, UNIDIR launched a new research seminar series: Working our Way to Nuclear Disarmament. Over a two-year period, the project will examine how States could realistically begin a serious process towards the complete elimination of nuclear weapons. As part of that effort, in June 2005 UNIDIR held a seminar entitled "Eliminating Weapons of Mass Destruction: Prospects for Effective International Verification".

10. In December 2004, UNIDIR and the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) began a joint pilot project for the European Commission, Strengthening EU cooperative threat-reduction activities: programming community actions in support of the European Union Strategy against Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction. The project, which takes place over 20 months, is one half of a larger pilot project that also includes small arms, light weapons and explosive remnants of war.

11. The publication *Disarmament Forum*, issue 4, 2004, was dedicated to the 2005 Review Conference of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), held in New York in May 2005. Papers such as: *Is the NPT up to the challenge of proliferation?*, *Strengthening non-proliferation rules and norms — the three-state problem*, *A.Q. Khan and the Limits of the Non-proliferation Regime*, *IAEA Safeguards and the NPT*, *Voluntary action in the fight against weapons of mass destruction and Contextualizing past, present and future challenges to the NPT regime* were written by Rebecca Johnson, George Perkovich, Christopher Clary, Ben Sanders, Rose Gottemoeller and Rhianna Tyson. The Special Comment was by the Director-General of the IAEA, Mohamed ElBaradei.

12. As a further part of contributing to the preparations for the NPT Review Conference, in April 2005 UNIDIR hosted a day of NPT Round-table Consultations with the British American Security Information Council and the Oxford Research Group.

13. In March 2005, UNIDIR and SIPRI co-published and launched the book entitled, *The 1995 NPT extension decision: an insider's view* by Jayantha Dhanapala, which related the account of the former United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Disarmament and UNIDIR Director of the 1995 Extension Conference for the NPT, over which he presided. The book was launched at a seminar, hosted by the Government of Sri Lanka.

3. Missiles and missile defences

14. Following the inconclusive final meeting of the Panel of Governmental Experts on the issue of missiles in all its aspects in 2004, the General Assembly in its resolution 59/67 requested the Secretary-General to prepare a report, with the support of qualified consultants and UNIDIR, as appropriate, taking into account the views expressed by Member States, to contribute to the United Nations endeavour to address the issue of missiles in all its aspects, by identifying areas where consensus can be reached, and to submit it to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session. UNIDIR is working with the Department for Disarmament Affairs to implement the resolution.

4. Biological and chemical weapons

15. UNIDIR and the Geneva Forum have held a series of meetings on the issue of biological weapons over the last year, including a brainstorming meeting on the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention, 30 Years of the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention: Looking Back, Looking Forward, and The BTWC New Process: Prospects for 2006 and Beyond. In addition, in June 2005, UNIDIR co-sponsored an international seminar with the Governments of France and Switzerland and the Geneva Centre for Security Policy on Biological and Chemical Weapons Threat on the occasion of the eightieth anniversary of the signing of the Geneva Protocol.

16. The first issue of *Disarmament Forum* in 2005 focused on science, technology and the Convention on Biological Weapons regimes. Topics such as the malign misuse of neuroscience, the assault on the immune system, non-lethal technologies, and the potential for professional codes were written by Alexander Kelle, Malcolm Dando, Katheryn Nixdorff, Nick Lewer, Neil Davison and Brian Rappert. The Special Comment was written by Dr. Robin Coupland.

17. UNIDIR, the International Institute for Strategic Studies (United States office) and the Chemical and Biological Arms Control Institute are working together to create a training programme to enhance the awareness of bioscientists of the safety and security risks, in terms of misuse and proliferation, that they face in their work and research.

5. Space technologies and space law

18. In March 2005, in partnership with the Governments of the People's Republic of China and the Russian Federation and the Simons Foundation (Canada), UNIDIR hosted a two-day workshop on Safeguarding Space Security: Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space.

19. UNIDIR has recently published *Safeguarding Space for All: Security and Peaceful Uses*, a report of a conference of the same name held in 2004. In addition, UNIDIR is currently publishing a book entitled *Common Security in Outer Space and International Law*, by Dr. Detlev Wolter.

6. Implementing treaties

20. Work has begun on a joint study with the South Eastern Europe Clearinghouse for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SEESAC) and the University of Bradford to investigate the costs of destroying small arms and light weapons. In

cooperation with the Center for Nonproliferation Studies, UNIDIR began a research programme in 2001 to study the role of regional bodies in implementing global treaties. The research, headed by Dr. Lawrence Scheinman, includes workshops, an international conference and a report on the modes and mechanisms of treaty implementation activities by regional organizations with a view to assessing the value of devolving regional work to regional bodies.

21. In October 2004, UNIDIR hosted a meeting with the Arms Control Center's Scientists Working Group on Biological and Chemical Weapons (United States), the Verification Training and Information Centre (United Kingdom), and the NGO Committee on Disarmament entitled *Should the UN Have a Standing Capacity for Weapons of Mass Destruction Investigations?*

7. Security and disarmament thinking

22. UNIDIR's lexicon of arms control, disarmament and security terms entitled *Coming to terms with security: a lexicon for arms control, disarmament and confidence-building*, has now been translated into Arabic, Spanish, Hungarian and Korean. It is currently being updated to take account of new developments and being translated into French. In addition, in collaboration with the Verification Research, Training and Information Centre, UNIDIR has published *Coming to Terms with Security: A Handbook on Verification and Compliance* in Arabic and English.

23. In the last decade, there have been several attempts to reformulate the disarmament and security agenda. A seminar series (co-hosted with the Department for Disarmament Affairs) on Disarmament as Humanitarian Action was established in 2000. Following three successful seminars, in February 2004 UNIDIR began a multi-year research project entitled *Disarmament as Humanitarian Action: Making Multilateral Negotiations Work*. The project is aimed at reframing and rethinking the ways and means for international arms control and disarmament processes so that the focus of international effort is on practical steps to benefit humanity. The project held an expert meeting in November 2004 and published *Alternative Approaches to Multilateral Decision Making: Disarmament as Humanitarian Action* in 2005.

24. Bringing the private sector into approaches to prevent conflict has found increasing resonance in both the conflict prevention and the business communities. UNIDIR, the Economic Commission for Europe and SIPRI have developed a range of initiatives and responses for the commercial sector to increase the security of the communities in which they operate and thus assist in attempts to prevent conflict in high-risk regions. UNIDIR's project *Exploring the Opportunities for Conflict Prevention Through Private-Public Partnerships* aims to assess the extent to which international companies, in partnership with government and civil society, can support the development of security in conflict-prone countries.

25. To assist the process of United Nations reform, UNIDIR hosted a discussion meeting at Geneva on the report of the Secretary-General's High-level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change (see A/59/565) along with members of the Panel's secretariat and the Secretary-General's staff.

26. Information management and information security are two aspects of the information age that have major implications for international peace, security and

disarmament. In this regard, UNIDIR is developing a project looking at these aspects of the way in which the international system manages information. A meeting on managing information in the United Nations is proposed for later in 2005.

B. Regional security and disarmament

27. Regional security has always been a priority in UNIDIR's research programme. Over the last years, UNIDIR has focused on Africa, the Middle East, Latin America, North-East Asia, South Asia and Central Asia.

1. Peacekeeping

28. In order to support peacekeeping efforts, UNIDIR began a new project to include women in disarmament, demobilization and reintegration processes through better research, training and education in order to further the objectives of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000). This project has had an input into the United Nations integrated disarmament, demobilization and reintegration standards — a process that has identified the gaps and response required for effective disarmament, demobilization and reintegration.

29. Post-conflict needs assessment is a new approach that UNIDIR has developed based on the requirements of the Conflict Analysis Framework of the World Bank. The aim of the approach is to develop a protocol to assist key post-conflict development actors assess the needs of local communities that have been embroiled in conflict. The work is heavily dependent on intertwining the knowledge bases of the security, conflict prevention, development and anthropological disciplines.

30. In 2005, UNIDIR will begin a project supported by the Marie Curie Intra-European Fellowship programme of the European Commission to study EU and United Nations planning for crisis management and peacebuilding. In particular the project will look at best practices and inter-institutional learning.

2. Regional security fellowships

31. UNIDIR's fellowship programme has focused on regional security. Eight fellows were brought from two regions to work collectively for six months at Geneva. The aim of the fellowship is to provide new ideas for security policy in regions of conflict. The two regions of focus so far have been South Asia and the Middle East. Over the next years, UNIDIR plans to focus on the Middle East and North-East Asia.

3. Latin America

32. *Las políticas globales, regionales y nacionales ante los regímenes de desarme y no proliferación de armas nucleares*, by Marcelo F. Valle Fonrouge, was published in late 2003; an English-language version is in publication. As part of the contribution to security in Latin America, UNIDIR and the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean embarked on a multi-year collaborative project to establish a database on small arms and light weapons issues.

4. Asia

33. The second issue of *Disarmament Forum* in 2005 was focused on North-East Asian Security. Papers on the security situation on the Korean peninsula, missile proliferation and missile defences were written by François Godement, Chung Min Lee, Charles L. Pritchard, Gu Guoliang and Hazel Smith. The Special Comment was written by Professor Kuniko Inoguchi.

5. The Middle East

34. UNIDIR's lexicon of arms control, disarmament and security terms, *Coming to terms with security: a lexicon for arms control, disarmament and confidence-building* and its companion volume *Coming to terms with security: a handbook on verification and compliance* have each been published as a back-to-back English-Arabic volume to facilitate arms control in the Middle East. Following UNIDIR's successful Middle East fellowship programme, the report entitled *Peace in the Middle East: P2P and the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict*, by Adel Atieh, Gilad Ben-Nun, Gasser El Shahed, Rana Taha and Steve Tulliu, was published in 2005. As a result, the cooperative work of two of the fellows to implement trust and confidence-building measures in the Israeli-Palestinian context, continues with the War-torn Societies Project International (WSP-International) in the region. A book entitled, *Building a Weapons of Mass Destruction Free Zone in the Middle East: Global Non-Proliferation Regimes and Regional Experiences*, a joint undertaking with the League of Arab States, was published in 2004. In March 2005, UNIDIR participated in a joint Department for Disarmament Affairs-League of Arab States Small Arms and Light Weapons capacity-building meeting in Algiers. Further work includes a project to look at capacity-building and training in border controls in North African States.

6. Africa

35. UNIDIR's work in Africa has continued with its expanded focus. Work in West Africa included the publication of *Exchanging weapons for development in Mali: weapon collection programmes assessed by local people*, by Geoffrey Mugumya. A project on transfers of small arms, light weapons and associated ammunition and parts within West Africa and their consequences on disarmament and conflict prevention initiatives in the region supporting the implementation of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) moratorium is now in development with ECOWAS. Discussions on how UNIDIR, the Department for Disarmament Affairs and UNDP can help build capacity in the African Union have been evolving over the previous six months.

36. UNIDIR and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Sierra Leone have collaborated on a joint study based on the findings of a 1,200-person survey on matters related to small arms, light weapons and personal security in Sierra Leone. A forthcoming joint publication, *From Research to Roadmap: Learning from the Arms for Development Initiative in Sierra Leone*, illustrates the types of security problems people suffered in Sierra Leone following the recent conflict.

37. UNIDIR is currently working with some key partners in African countries on developing a New African Theory of Peacebuilding that will build on African experiences stemming from traditional practices rather than practices that are

imposed from outside. In addition, owing to popular demand, UNIDIR will reissue its book *Bound to Cooperate: Conflict, Peace and People in Sierra Leone*, with an additional preface to update it.

C. Human security and disarmament

38. UNIDIR is involved in academic and policy discussions on the topic of human security. The joint UNIDIR-Department for Disarmament Affairs-Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue work on Disarmament as Humanitarian Action has been viewed as an important contribution to the current thinking on new approaches to security and UNIDIR's work on small arms, landmines and health security have made a significant contribution to the field.

39. The third issue of *Disarmament Forum* in 2004 looked at the topic of human rights, human security and disarmament. Papers included such issues as defining and measuring human security, weapons of mass destruction and human rights, small arms and light weapons, human rights monitoring and armed conflict, and were written by Kevin Boyle, Sigmund Simonsen, Taylor Owen, Peter Weiss, John Burroughs, Barbara Frey, Michael O'Flaherty and David Petrasek. The Special Comment was written by Dr. Mary Robinson.

40. In an effort to generate awareness about the relationship between security and human rights issues, UNIDIR hosted the exhibit "Building a Culture of Peace for the Children of the World" during the sixty-first session of the Commission on Human Rights.

1. European Action on Small Arms, Light Weapons and Explosive Remnants of War

41. In October 2004, UNIDIR began a 20-month project for the European Commission entitled European Action on Small Arms, Light Weapons and Explosive Remnants of War. The project is working to provide the European Union with a coherent set of policies on controlling the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons. The project involves a network of research organizations commissioned to write policy papers, a validation phase to test the findings and a series of meetings and publications to communicate the results. The validation phase will incorporate capacity-building for border controls within the League of Arab States.

2. Weapons collection in exchange for development projects

42. Weapons-collection programmes to mop up the large surpluses of small arms that exist following conflict are now the accepted practice. UNIDIR has carried out a detailed analysis of selected weapons-collection programmes in order to assist policymakers, donor countries, United Nations specialized agencies, and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to devise better strategies to collect weapons from civilians and former combatants. Using participatory monitoring and evaluation techniques, UNIDIR has identified key criteria for successful weapons collection. The project has studied the experiences of Mali, Albania and Cambodia and assisted work in Somalia, Kenya and Sierra Leone. In September 2004, UNIDIR held an international conference to disseminate and discuss the findings of the project. Four books have been published by the project and another is in publication. One of these publications is an analysis of the research results and the implications for weapons collection and disarmament,

demobilization and reintegration process. Another is a comparative analysis of the methodologies that have been used in various evaluations.

3. Illicit brokering of small arms and light weapons

43. As part of a collaborative project with the Department for Disarmament Affairs, UNIDIR is embarking on a research project to study the issue of illicit brokering and its impact on the illegal trade in small arms and light weapons. The project forms part of a wider consultative process to ascertain the views of States in line with General Assembly resolution 58/241 of 23 December 2003.

4. Geneva Forum meetings on Small Arms

44. The Geneva Forum is a collaborative programme started in 1998 between UNIDIR, the Quaker United Nations Office and the Geneva Graduate Institute of International Studies. Part of the Forum's work is a series of discussions at Geneva on controlling the spread of small arms. In the past year, the Geneva Forum held seven meetings of the Geneva Process — a discussion forum on the implementation of the Programme of Action. In addition, UNIDIR has continued to collect information from States, NGOs and international organizations and worked with the International Action Network on Small Arms and Small Arms Survey to put this information into an online database, accessible through UNIDIR's website. In late 2004, the Geneva Forum published a report entitled, *The Role of Regional Organisations in Stemming the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons: Sharing Experience and Drawing Lessons*.

5. Capacity-building for implementing the United Nations Programme of Action on Small Arms

45. UNDP, the Department for Disarmament Affairs, UNIDIR and Small Arms Survey are carrying out a joint project to develop capacity in relevant countries to assist them in their reports on the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action. The project has expanded to assist more States, including a series of regional meetings and a "caravan" in southern Africa, which comprises experts from UNDP, the Department for Disarmament Affairs and UNIDIR. In addition, UNIDIR has carried out a timely analysis of the reports made to the 2003 Biennial Meeting of States to Consider the Implementation of the Programme of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons in order to help better ascertain where capacity-building was most needed. The analysis was published in *Implementing the United Nations Programme of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons — Analysis of the Reports Submitted by States in 2003/2004*, by Valerie Yankey-Wayne and Elli Kytömäki, and launched at a seminar with UNDP and the Department for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat. A further analysis is being made of the reports to the 2005 Biennial Meeting of States.

46. The United Nations Coordinating Action on Small Arms Database Development Project was initiated in March 2005, with a view to facilitating collation and dissemination of information among Coordinating Action on Small Arms members as well as to Member States and the public in general. UNIDIR will develop the country profiles section featuring country-specific information, including a brief needs assessment as well as an inventory of relevant expertise existing within Member States and that could be mobilized to provide assistance.

6. Security sector governance

47. UNIDIR and the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces have developed a programme of work on the Challenges of Security Sector Governance in West Africa. Later in 2005, the Centre will publish a book from that project and launch the second phase of the research. In 2004, UNIDIR participated in a conference in Abuja on the challenges of security sector governance in Africa, which was co-hosted by the Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution and the Centre.

7. Disarmament and development

48. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 57/65 of 22 November 2002, a Group of Governmental Experts was established to report on the relationship between disarmament and development. UNIDIR was appointed as consultant to the study, which reported to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session, in December 2004 (A/59/119).

8. Landmines and other explosive remnants of war

49. UNIDIR is working with the European Commission to develop a coherent set of policies on explosive remnants of war (see also para. 41 above). The project has developed a network of research organizations commissioned to write policy papers, a validation phase to test the findings and a series of meetings and publications to communicate the results. Research on explosive remnants of war, such as cluster munitions, is planned in the near future.

9. Health, human rights and security

50. The connections between security, human rights and health are increasingly of interest to the disarmament and security debate. UNIDIR is cooperating with the World Health Organization, other United Nations bodies and NGOs on the effects of and issues pertaining to interpersonal violence and the spread of weapons. The third issue of *Disarmament Forum* in 2004 was dedicated to human rights and human security (see para. 39 above). The work of UNIDIR, the Department for Disarmament Affairs and the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue on Disarmament as Humanitarian Action has focused on the health effects of weapons and UNIDIR continues to collaborate with the University of Liverpool on the long-term effects of the use of chemical weapons on civilians.

IV. Networking

51. One of UNIDIR's main functions is to cooperate actively with specialized agencies, organizations and institutions of the United Nations system and with other organizations active in the field of disarmament. UNIDIR has a number of formal and informal programmes and working arrangements with a wide selection of other organizations.

A. Electronic networking

52. In cooperation with SIPRI, the United Nations Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, the International Security

Network and the University of Pittsburgh, UNIDIR is establishing a database on researchers and institutes around the world on small arms and light weapons and other security issues. The UNIDIR website has a networking feature that comprises two parts: *e-di@logue* and *for comment*. *E-di@logue* is a discussion forum. Short pieces are put up for wider discussion. *For comment* is a way for UNIDIR authors to obtain comments on draft papers before they are published and a way to disseminate new ideas out to a more diverse audience.

B. Disarmament Forum

53. UNIDIR publishes a bilingual quarterly journal, *Disarmament Forum*, which has now been in publication for over five years. Each issue has a theme related to security and disarmament. There are papers by experts focusing on the theme and shorter articles on other subjects. Summaries of UNIDIR current research projects and recent publications are contained within each issue. Over 40 women experts have contributed articles to *Disarmament Forum* in the past five years.

C. Education for disarmament

54. The United Nations Group of Governmental Experts on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Education submitted its report to the Secretary-General and to the General Assembly in October 2002. UNIDIR has now increased its work on disarmament education substantially. In late 2004, during the meetings of the First Committee of the General Assembly, the Department for Disarmament Affairs and UNIDIR held a round-table discussion aimed at assisting States in their reporting on the implementation of the recommendations in the report.

D. Conferences, seminars and discussion meetings

55. UNIDIR holds a range of different types of research meetings both at Geneva and in different regions around the world. The meetings are held with the dual purpose of examining issues of security, arms control and disarmament and of fostering cooperation with and among research institutes in the areas concerned. UNIDIR includes as many women speakers as possible in its publications and conferences. The UNIDIR joint project with the Quaker United Nations Organization and the Geneva Graduate Institute, the Geneva Forum, has held 20 meetings in the last year on a wide range of issues such as conflict goods, global security, biological weapons, small arms, firearms and explosive remnants of war.

E. Collaboration with other institutions

56. UNIDIR has continued to increase the number of collaborating institutes for research projects and meetings. The biennial International Security Forum took place in October 2004 in Montreux. As part of an attempt to improve the functioning of the United Nations system, there is renewed cooperation among the bodies of the United Nations system. UNIDIR has increased its cooperative work with the Department for Disarmament Affairs through the joint project on Disarmament as Humanitarian Action, and through the involvement of UNIDIR

personnel with the various group of governmental experts studies and the substantive support UNIDIR can provide. UNIDIR continues to be a member of the Coordinating Action on Small Arms, an initiative of the Department for Disarmament Affairs. UNIDIR is also continuing its collaboration with UNDP on small arms and development issues and is working closely with the United Nations Regional Centres for Peace and Disarmament. In 2004-2005, UNIDIR provided the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) with two researchers to assist in formulating UNHCR responses to small arms and light weapons. A special issue of *Refugee* has been written with UNIDIR's assistance in time for the 2005 Biennial Meeting of States. UNIDIR works with a number of other bodies within the United Nations system. The Institute aims to support work towards peace and international security throughout the United Nations and is particularly interested in linking peace, security, disarmament, human rights and development together. UNIDIR is participating in a series of meetings — the Geneva Research and Policy Dialogue — held by the Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva to increase cooperation between United Nations research bodies and outside research institutes. As a result of such meetings, UNIDIR has recently increased its collaborative work with other United Nations research organizations, in particular the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) and the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD). In November 2004, the Geneva Research and Policy Dialogue was held under the joint invitation of the United Nations Office at Geneva and the United Nations University. Research collaboration between the organizations has been fostered as a result of that series of meetings, in particular a collaboration between UNRISD and UNIDIR on research needs in the United Nations.

F. Fellowship and Young Researchers Programme

57. The UNIDIR fellowship programme brings visiting research fellows to Geneva for a period of one to six months. The visiting fellows programme aims to: provide training for researchers from developing States; allow them to interact with each other, with researchers from developed States, the United Nations Secretariat, delegations and non-governmental institutes; and increase the quality of UNIDIR's work, thereby enhancing the utility of UNIDIR's information disseminated to Governments and institutes. UNIDIR's increasingly competitive programme brings young researchers from all over the world to work at UNIDIR for short periods. In the 2004-2005 period UNIDIR hosted 26 young researchers from 20 countries, including Argentina, China, Colombia, Ghana, India, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Poland, Romania, Russia and Uganda. UNIDIR also hosts one Canadian Junior Professional Consultant per year. Most of those partnerships are based on agreements that recognize UNIDIR as a legitimate provider of training for university students. That means that students who are accepted at UNIDIR can obtain university credits for their placement internship or their internship can otherwise be counted as part of the university requirements for a degree.

V. Publications

58. UNIDIR is planning a large number of publications over the coming 18 months. They include the quarterly journal, Disarmament Forum, and books and research reports.

59. Between July 2004 and July 2005, UNIDIR published:

Alternative Approaches in Multilateral Decision Making: Disarmament as Humanitarian Action, John Borrie and Vanessa Martin Randin (eds), 2005, 152 p., United Nations publication, Sales No. GVE.05.0.8.

Executive Summary: Implementing the United Nations Programme of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons — Analysis of the Reports Submitted by States in 2003, by Elli Kytömäki and Valerie Anne Yankey-Wayne, in cooperation with UNDP, the Department for Disarmament Affairs and SAS, 2005 (UNIDIR/2005/2).

Multilateral Diplomacy and the NPT: An Insider's Account, by Jayantha Dhanapala with Randy Rydell, in cooperation with SIPRI, 2005, United Nations publication, Sales No. GVE.05.0.5.

Peace in the Middle East: P2P and the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict, by Adel Atieh, Gilad Ben-Nun, Gasser El Shahed, Rana Taha and Steve Tulliu, 2004, United Nations publication, Sales No. GVE.05.0.2.

Building a Weapons of Mass Destruction Free Zone in the Middle East: Global Non-Proliferation Regimes and Regional Experiences, in cooperation with the League of Arab States, 2004, United Nations publication, Sales No. GVE.04.0.30.

Exchanging Weapons for Development in Cambodia: An Assessment of Different Weapon Collection Strategies Assessed by Local People, by Geoffrey Mugumya, 2004, United Nations publication, Sales No. GVE.04.0.28.

Implementing the United Nations Programme of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons: Analysis of the Reports Submitted by States in 2003, by Elli Kytömäki and Valerie Anne Yankey-Wayne, in cooperation with UNDP, the Department for Disarmament Affairs and the Small Arms Survey, 2004, 320 p., United Nations publication, Sales No. GVE.04.0.27.

From Exchanging Weapons for Development to Security Sector Reform in Albania: Gaps and Grey Areas in Weapon Collection Programmes Assessed by Local People, by Geoffrey Mugumya, 2004, United Nations publication, Sales No. GVE.04.0.19.

Open Skies: A Cooperative Approach to Military Transparency and Confidence Building, by Pál Dunay, Márton Krasznai, Hartwig Spitzer, Rafael Wiemker and William Wynne, 2004, United Nations publication, Sales No. GVE.04.0.18.

Exchanging Weapons for Development in Mali: Weapon Collection Programmes Assessed by Local People, by Geoffrey Mugumya, 2004, United Nations publication, Sales No. GVE.04.0.14.

Disarmament Forum

- 2005, Issue 2 North-East Asian Security
- 2005, Issue 1 Science, Technology and the Chemical and Biological Weapons Regimes
- 2004, Issue 4 The 2005 NPT Review Conference
- 2004, Issue 3 Human Rights, Human Security and Disarmament

Annex I

Income and expenditure for 2003 and 2004 and estimates for 2005 and 2006

(In thousands of United States dollars)

Items	2003	2005		2006
		2004 (Estimates)	(Estimates)	
A. Funds available at the beginning of the year	1 441.6	1 108.0 ^b	1 910.5 ^d	1 610.0 ^f
B. Income				
Voluntary contributions and public donations	751.5 ^a	2 073.4 ^c	3 727.6 ^e	1 038.2 ^g
Subvention from the United Nations regular budget	227.6	274.2	202.3	238.2
Other inter-organization contributions	6.7	45.0	0.0	0.0
Interest income	40.0	34.1	40.0	20.0
Miscellaneous income	14.6	39.9	0.0	0.0
Total income	1 040.4	2 466.6	3 969.9	1 296.4
C. Prior period adjustments	0.0	2.3	0.0	0.0
D. Prior period obligations	0.0	45.7	0.0	0.0
E. Total funds available	2 482.0	3 622.6	5 885.4	2 906.5
F. Expenditure	1 374.0	1 712.1	4 270.3	2 423.1
H. Fund balance at the end of the year	1 108.0 ^b	1 910.5 ^d	1 610.0 ^f	483.3 ^h

^a See annex III for details of UNIDIR 2003 income from voluntary sources.^b Includes \$163,800 required as operating cash reserve for 2003.^c See annex III for details of UNIDIR 2004 income from voluntary sources.^d Includes \$205,400 required as operating cash reserve for 2004.^e See annex III for details of UNIDIR 2005 estimated income from voluntary sources.^f Includes \$323,800 required as operating cash reserve for 2005.^g See annex III for details of UNIDIR 2006 estimated income from voluntary sources. The estimates for 2006 contributions are conservative. Experience shows that they will be much higher but this cannot, of course, be guaranteed at this stage.^h Includes \$290,700 required as operating cash reserve for 2006.

Annex II

Resource requirements

(In thousands of United States dollars)

	2003	2004	2005*	2006*	Increase
<i>Resource requirements</i>	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(4-3)
A. Direct administrative costs					
Salaries and related staff costs	571.6	626.9	649.7	649.7	0.0
Temporary assistance for meetings	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Consultants' fees and travel	16.8	18.4	67.0	20.0	-47.0
Ad hoc expert groups	16.6	72.1	38.0	67.6	29.6
Personal service contract	610.5	780.1	3 154.2	1 503.3	-1 650.9
Official travel of staff	72.1	75.5	103.6	40.0	-63.6
Other specialized training	0.0	0.0	2.0	2.0	0.0
Other contractual services	2.3	2.7	4.1	2.0	-2.1
Hospitality	6.1	12.2	8.1	2.0	-6.1
Rental of conference room	3.0	0.2	2.0	2.0	0.0
Rental of office equipment	5.7	5.1	2.0	2.0	0.0
Rental of conference-servicing equipment	1.3	0.2	2.0	2.0	0.0
Maintenance costs	0.0	1.6	2.0	2.0	0.0
Bank charges	0.7	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other miscellaneous services	0.6	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Communication	0.0	0.3	1.0	1.0	0.0
Paper for internal reproduction	0.0	20.6	12.0	12.0	0.0
Subscriptions and standing orders	2.6	1.4	2.5	2.5	0.0
Photographic supplies	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Acquisition of office equipment	9.6	22.6	22.4	5.0	-17.4
Acquisition, software packages	0.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0
Acquisition of facsimile machine	0.0	0.9	1.0	1.0	0.0
Stationery and office supplies	0.7	0.0	1.0	1.0	0.0
Electrical supplies	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Data-processing supplies	0.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0
Loss or gain on exchange	-1.2	-0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total A	1 319.4	1 643.6	4 076.6	2 319.1	-1 757.5

	2003	2004	2005 ^a	2006 ^a	Increase
Resource requirements	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(4-3)
B. Programme support costs					
(5% of total A, less United Nations subvention)	54.6	68.5	193.7	104.0	-89.7
Total expenditure (A + B)	1 374.0	1 712.1	4 270.3	2 423.1	-1 847.2
C. Operating cash reserve					
(At least 15% of total A, less United Nations subvention, less EU contribution for weapons of mass destruction)	163.8	205.4	309.7	283.0	-26.7
Grand total, A + B + C	1 537.8	1 917.5	4 580.0	2 706.2	-1 873.9

^a Figures may be increased upon the confirmation of current funding proposals.

A. Direct programme and administrative costs for 2006

1. In 2004 UNIDIR started two major projects: A Strategy for European Action on Small Arms, Light Weapons and Explosive Remnants of War; and Reinforcing EU Cooperative Threat-Reduction Programmes: Community Action in Support of the European Union Strategy against the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction. These projects were largely financed by two European Commission grants of €1.5 million each and will run through to June 2006.

2. Upon approval of pending fund-raising applications, the provisions made for other research programmes and administrative costs are minimal and will be increased as funding comes forward.

(a) **Salaries and related staff costs: \$649,700.** These estimated requirements are needed to cover the salaries and related staff costs of UNIDIR regular staff. In 2006 the regular staff will consist of the Director (D-2), the Deputy Director (D-1) and two General Service staff. The total estimated requirements under this heading are based on the standard salary costs applicable to Geneva (version 20) and reflect no change over the 2005 revised requirements.

(b) **Consultants' fees and travel: \$20,000.** This provision will be needed to hire the services of a professional designer for the cover pages of UNIDIR's publications (\$10,000), and consultancies for the study entitled, *A Strategy for European Action on Small Arms, Light Weapons and Explosive Remnants of War*. It reflects a decrease of \$47,000 over the 2005 revised requirements.

(c) **Ad hoc expert groups: \$67,600.** This provision, reflecting an increase of \$29,600 over the 2005 budget requirements, will be needed to cover the travel expenses of experts participating in the expert group meetings for the project entitled, *A Strategy for European Action on Small Arms, Light Weapons and Explosive Remnants of War* and for the project entitled, *Disarmament as Humanitarian Action: Making Multilateral Negotiations Work*.

(d) **Personal service contracts: \$1,503,300.** This provision will be needed to extend the contracts of the staff in-house working on recurrent projects. In 2000, the contracts were brought into line with regular United Nations contracts and in

2001 the related posts were graded by the Office of Human Resources Management of the United Nations Office at Geneva. In 2002, the salaries were increased to bring net salaries into line with the related gradings. The estimated requirements reflect a decrease of \$1,650,900 over the 2005 revised requirements, as the project entitled, *A Strategy for European Action on Small Arms, Light Weapons and Explosive Remnants of War* will end on 15 June 2006.

(e) **Official travel of staff: \$40,000.** The estimated requirements for travel of staff in 2006 reflect a decrease of \$63,600 over the revised 2005 revised estimates and will be used mainly by the project staff for *A Strategy for European Action on Small Arms, Light Weapons and Explosive Remnants of War* and non-project-related travel of staff. Other project-related travel will be added if funds are received for that purpose. The Director and members of the staff receive invitations to conferences and seminars which have to be declined because of the limited travel budget of UNIDIR. On the other hand, they also receive a number of invitations where the costs are covered by the host institution: such travel will, at times, be combined with UNIDIR's missions, thereby reducing costs to the Institute. Travel for fund-raising purposes will, as far as possible, be combined with travel for other purposes.

(f) **Other specialized training: \$2,000.** This provision, reflecting no change over the revised 2005 budget requirements, will be needed to train UNIDIR staff on new software.

(g) **Other contractual services: \$2,000.** This provision, reflecting no change over the 2005 budget requirements, will be needed to extend and expand the existing contractual services for the website and services related to the data-processing equipment.

(h) **Hospitality: \$2,000.** The estimated requirements for hospitality in 2006 reflect a decrease of \$6,100 over the 2005 revised estimates and will be used mainly for the project *A Strategy for European Action on Small Arms, Light Weapons and Explosive Remnants of War*.

(i) **Rental of conference room: \$2,000.** This provision, reflecting no change over the 2005 revised estimates, will be used for the conferences organized in the framework of the project *A Strategy for European Action on Small Arms, Light Weapons and Explosive Remnants of War* in Cairo and Geneva.

(j) **Rental of conference-servicing equipment: \$2,000.** These estimated requirements, reflecting no change over the 2005 revised estimates, will be used for the conferences organized in the framework of the project *A Strategy for European Action on Small Arms, Light Weapons and Explosive Remnants of War* in Cairo and Geneva.

(k) **Maintenance costs: \$2,000.** This provision, reflecting no change over the 2005 revised estimates, will be used to extend the current data-processing equipment maintenance contracts.

(l) **Communication: \$1,000.** This provision, reflecting no change over the 2005 revised estimates, will be used to extend the current Nomadic facilities.

(m) **Paper for internal reproduction: \$12,000.** The estimated requirements under this heading will be used to purchase the paper for the production of *Disarmament Forum*. They reflect an increase of \$2,000 over the 2005 revised requirements.

(n) **Subscription and standing orders: \$2,500.** This provision, reflecting no change over the 2005 resources requirements will be used to extend the current subscriptions.

(o) **Acquisition of office equipment: \$5,000.** These estimated requirements reflect a decrease of \$17,400 over the revised 2005 budget requirements. They will be needed to purchase new printers.

(p) **Acquisition of software packages: \$1,000.** This provision is budgeted to upgrade existent software equipment and reflects no change over the revised 2005 budget requirements.

(q) **Acquisition of facsimile machine: \$1,000 — Stationery and office supplies: \$1,000 — Data-processing supplies: \$1,000.** Under these headings, the estimated requirements are identical to those for 2005 and will be needed to pay the leasing of the facsimile machine, the usual office and data-processing supplies.

B. Programme support costs

3. A provision of **\$104,000**, representing 5 per cent of the total estimated expenditure less the amount of the United Nations regular budget subvention of \$238,200 will be needed for programme support costs in 2006.

C. Operating cash reserve

4. In compliance with administrative instruction ST/AI/284, an amount of **\$283,000** will be kept as operating cash reserve. It represents 15 per cent of the total 2006 estimated expenditure funded from extrabudgetary resources, less the expenditure related to the project entitled, Reinforcing EU Cooperative Threat Reduction Programmes: Community Action in Support of the European Union Strategy against the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction, for which UNIDIR has asked for exemption of the operating cash reserve.

Annex III

**Voluntary contributions for 2003 and 2004 and current status for
2005 and 2006**

<i>Voluntary contributions</i>	<i>2003</i>	<i>2004</i>	<i>2005*</i>	<i>2006*</i>
A. Governmental contributions				
Austria	0	0	10 954	10 000
Belgium	10 774	0	0	0
Canada	0	32 143	0	0
China	0	0	30 000	0
Egypt	0	0	5 000	5 000
France	300 000	330 000	330 000	330 000
Germany	2 507	0	0	0
Greece	7 800	7 800	7 800	7 800
India	10 000	0	10 000	10 000
Israel	0	0	9 918	10 000
Luxembourg	2 892	3 158	3 235	3 200
Mexico	0	0	20 000	10 000
New Zealand	2 730	0	17 750	17 750
Netherlands	0	6 798	30 000	30 000
Norway	239 257	265 137	281 242	90 000
Republic of Korea	2 500	0	5 000	5 000
Turkey	0	0	10 000	10 000
Sweden	0	0	27 322	27 000
Switzerland	48 474	54 687	93 600	50 000
United Kingdom	0	0	127 586	0
United States of America	5 000	0	0	0
Total, governmental contributions	641 934	699 723	1 019 407	605 750
B. Public donations				
BICC	0	2 500	0	0
Educational Fund to Stop Gun Violence	0	5 000	0	0
European Commission (received)	0	1 326 260	1 356 852	0
European Commission (pledged)	0	0	905 563	388 098
European Commission-Marie Curie Fellowship (pledged)	0	0	222 355	0
Graduate Institute for International Studies	49 100	15 360	37 561	0
IGCC (USA)	50 000	0	0	0
Landmine Action	10 500	0	0	0
SEESAC (UNDP)	0	0	34 200	0
Simons Foundation	0	14 514	27 000	30 000

<i>Voluntary contributions</i>	<i>2003</i>	<i>2004</i>	<i>2005^a</i>	<i>2006^a</i>
United Nations Department for Disarmament Affairs (Brokering, CASA Missiles)	0	0	80 000	0
UNDP (Capacity-building)	0	0	44 640	14 400
Total, public donations	109 600	1 363 634	2 708 171	432 498
Total, voluntary contributions	751 534	2 063 357	3 727 578	1 038 248

^a Figures will be increased upon the confirmation of current funding proposals.

Annex IV

Current status of 2005 estimated income from voluntary sources

<i>Donor</i>	<i>Total amount of contributions US\$</i>	<i>Special project US\$</i>	<i>To be used for other purposes (including administrative costs) US\$</i>
Austria (received)	10 954	0	10 954
China (received) ^a	30 000	25 000	5 000
Egypt (pledged)	5 000	0	5 000
France (received) ^b	330 000	50 000	280 000
Greece (received)	7 800	0	7 800
India (pledged)	10 000	0	10 000
Israel (received)	9 918	0	9 918
Luxembourg (received)	3 235	0	3 235
Mexico (received)	20 000	0	20 000
Netherlands (pledged) ^c	30 000	25 000	5 000
New Zealand (pledged) ^c	17 750	14 792	2 958
Norway (received) ^d	191 242	159 368	31 874
Norway (pledged)	90 000	0	90 000
Republic of Korea (pledged)	10 000	0	10 000
Turkey (received)	5 000	0	5 000
Sweden (pledged) ^e	27 322	22 768	4 554
Switzerland (received)	60 000	0	60 000
Switzerland (pledged) ^f	33 600	28 000	5 600
United Kingdom (received) ^f	64 851	54 042	10 808
United Kingdom (pledged) ^f	62 735	54 042	10 808
European Commission (received) ^f	1 356 852	1 268 086	88 766
European Commission (pledged) ^f	905 563	846 321	59 242
European Commission (Marie Curie Foundation (pledged))	222 355	185 296	37 059
Graduate Institute for International Studies (received)	37 561	31 301	6 260
SEESAC (UNDP) (pledged) ^g	34 200	28 500	5 700
Simons Foundation (received) ^h	27 000	22 500	4 500
United Nations Department for Disarmament Affairs (pledged) ^b	80 000	66 667	13 333
UNDP (pledged) ⁱ	44 640	37 200	7 440
Total	3 727 578	2 881 683	803 371
	100%	77.31	21.55

(footnotes on following page)

- ^a Earmarked for a Conference on Safeguarding Space Security: Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space, Geneva, 21-22 March 2005.
- ^b The contribution from France covers the salary costs of the Deputy Director of UNIDIR, and an amount of \$50,000 is earmarked to cover the cost of a research project on weapons of mass destruction.
- ^c Earmarked for a research project entitled, Disarmament as Humanitarian Action: Making Multilateral Negotiations Work.
- ^d Earmarked for a research project entitled, Working Our Way to a Nuclear-Weapons-Free World.
- ^e Earmarked for a research project entitled, Exploring the opportunities to enhance Human Security and Economic Stability through Private-Public Partnerships.
- ^f Contribution to: a research project entitled Reinforcing EU Cooperative Threat Reduction Programme: Community Action in Support of the European Union Strategy against the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction; and a research project entitled, European Action on Small Arms, Light Weapons and Explosive Remnants of War.
- ^g Earmarked for a project entitled, Cost-Benefit Analysis of Small Arms and Light Weapons Destruction.
- ^h Earmarked for: a report on missiles in all their aspects; and development of a Coordinating Action on Small Arms database.
- ⁱ Earmarked for a report on capacity development for reporting to the United Nations Programme of Action on Small Arms.



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Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty

Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty

Note by the Secretary-General

1. The report of the Executive Secretary of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization covering the year 2004 is submitted herewith to the General Assembly pursuant to the provisions of article IV, paragraph 1, of the Agreement to Regulate the Relationship between the United Nations and the Preparatory Commission (General Assembly resolution 54/280, annex). The Executive Secretary will report on the recent activities of the Commission in his statement before the First Committee of the General Assembly.
2. Since only a limited number of copies of the report are available, it has not been possible to make a full distribution. Delegations are therefore requested to have the copies transmitted to them available during discussion of this item.

* A/60/150.

